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NOTICE.—A series of parodies of famous living men of letters, by a well-known writer, will begin in next issue, under the heading "A Christmas Garland". With the same issue will appear gratis a Literary Supplement devoted to Christmas gift-books.

We beg leave to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications : and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

At last the French and Spanish Governments have awaked to the idea that they ought at any rate to pretend to do something in Morocco. The Moorish debate in the French Chamber has been put off till next Thursday, when the ratification of the Algeciras convention will be taken. In the meanwhile France and Spain have entered into an agreement in this connexion. They are nervous now lest events should give some other Power the excuse for interference. The fall of the Ministry of Marshal Lopez Dominguez in Spain was partly due to slackness in Moorish policy, which the stop-gap Premier Señor Moret exposed ; but discontent with the Marshal Dominguez' anti-clericalism was a larger factor. The charge is now made against the French Government of being as eager to send a force to Tangier as they have been slow in ratifying the Algeciras agreement. The signs of haste are obvious only in the French Chamber.

Both Prince Bülow and Herr Dernburg, the new Colonial Minister, made statements on Wednesday on Colonial policy. The idea that Germany can abandon her possessions beyond the seas was of course treated as ridiculous, and indeed Herr Dernburg's appointment is proof that the Colonial Department is to be placed on a more satisfactory footing. Germany, as Prince Bülow says, is not the only great power which has Colonial troubles. There have been unfortunate breaches of service regulations and contracts were entered into with various firms which have had to

be rescinded. Herr Dernburg opens with the determination to choose only the best men for Colonial work, and is taking steps to ensure such officials against malicious attacks and prejudiced judges when their actions call for inquiry. A business man himself—the first who has held "Cabinet rank" in Germany—he is setting about the reorganisation of his department in a thoroughly business-like way.

Belgian public opinion is becoming sorely exercised by the continued attacks on Congo Free State maladministration. The statement of the Prime Minister in the Chamber on Wednesday may be taken as a confession that the Belgian Government does not quite know where it stands in the matter. The time has gone by when grave abuses can be denied, and Count de Naeyer suggested that reforms had been introduced which would be attended with happy results. On the question of annexation the Premier was bewilderingly vague. It is hoped that a report from the Committee to which it has been referred may be presented to the Chamber at the end of the session—an ingenious way apparently of hinting that nothing will be done yet awhile. When the Government does act—and it will open negotiations at the first favourable opportunity—it will be careful "to safeguard its authority in the eyes of the country".

It was to prevent procrastination that the Government were interpellated by M. Hymans. The Belgians are keenly alive to the fact that Congo misrule, for which King Leopold must be held responsible, has roused indignation throughout Europe. It is feared that the reversionary rights of Belgium on the Congo may be forfeited and the sovereign character of the Free State impaired, if the "fierce campaign" now being carried on against the King were to lead to foreign intervention. M. Hymans, criticising the action or inaction of the Government, was apprehensive lest the final decision should be dictated by pressure from without. The debate showed that, as a fact, "pressure from without" is having its effect. Sir Edward Grey's warning has not altogether missed its mark.

M. Stolypin's reform giving the right to peasants to become individual owners of land, which has hitherto

been held under the communal system, is said to be bringing in peasants in large numbers to make applications for allotments. The Opposition journals denounce this encroachment on communal life, and assert it will produce more discontent than ever amongst the peasants. In that case the Opposition will profit by it; and they should welcome M. Stolypin as an ally. It is a peculiar note of Opposition criticism that all the Government's measures seem designed to help their opponents' projects. M. Stolypin is also encountering opposition from anti-Semites in removing from the Jews many restrictions on their commerce and industry. The position is the more difficult as the resistance comes from the Conservative sections of society; but the Government declares it will persist in this removal of restrictions and will have so much done before the Douma meets, though the ultimate solution of the Jewish question must be left to it.

In the speech from the throne to the Austro-Hungarian Delegations at Buda-Pesth the Emperor pointed out that there is no essential change in the political situation. Such matters as the Delegations discuss are mostly included in the *modus vivendi* which was arranged between the Emperor and the Hungarian leaders when the present Coalition Ministry came into power. The army question was amongst them; and the speech asks for much smaller sums for the extraordinary army estimates. This is the most noticeable item in the speech; the foreign references being colourless.

The Emperor however is said to have expressed to the Austrian delegates his disapproval of the Upper Chamber of the Reichsrath attempting to modify the effect of the universal suffrage bill now in the Lower Chamber by any schemes of plural voting. The Emperor seems to have been inspired by the genius loci: it was in Hungary that he first sanctioned the project of universal suffrage of the Fejervary Cabinet as a counterblast to the Magyar independence movement. Count Andrássy's declaration of war in the Hungarian Chamber against the claims of the non-Magyars to a wider representation of their races is further proof of the arrogance of the Magyars both towards Austria and the peoples within their own kingdom.

Mr. Fielding's Canadian Budget statement is as satisfactory from the Imperial as from the Colonial point of view. Canada's increasing revenue is accompanied by reduced taxation, attributed in some measure to the differential duties imposed on imports in favour of Great Britain. Certain modifications are now to be made on the preferential side of the tariff, but they are all intended to promote a policy of linking-up commercial advantages and patriotic sentiment. The most significant point in the financial statement is the refusal to yield to those who demand that protection should be given to everything which can possibly be made in Canada. Tinplate will remain on the free list despite the pressure put upon the Government to assist a factory which has been established in Canada.

Mr. Roosevelt's Panama trip is over and he has returned to Washington. He has been outside United States territory and has thus contravened once again the unwritten law. Nobody and nothing is any the worse nor perhaps any the better; but the innovation is a symptom of the gradual sapping and mining which is taking place in American constitutional rules and usages. The President is doing his best to break through these pedantries and pruderies in which American political and social life are so immeshed that every effort to reform abuses and check corruptions is strangled at its birth. The "immortal founders" of the Republic were so afraid of their own democracy, and so surrounded it with checks on the power of its executive, that it has proved powerless to protect itself against abounding rascality.

Mr. Eugene Schmitz, Mayor of San Francisco, has also arrived at New York, and has been welcomed by detectives. He was wanted for extorting money from saloon-keepers on pain of losing their licences. "Abe" Ruef, a "boss", is to be indicted with him. Mr.

Schmitz a few years ago was earning eight pounds a week in an orchestra; and he is now thought to be worth £600,000. It is a little hard to believe, but according to the American papers this duumvirate has controlled a municipal ring which has given San Francisco the premier place in corruption over other municipalities; even over New York under the Tweed ring. Amongst other things it has run the "Municipal Crib", a disorderly house for which it has won a monopoly against other such places, and from which the profits are said to be £100,000 a year. According to the "Times" correspondent everything is so disorganised in San Francisco that it is doubtful if the city can be rebuilt. The hotels provide armed guards for their visitors.

Mr. Bryce has been mentioned in the American press as a possible successor of Sir Mortimer Durand. May this explain why he is cultivating a pleasantry and a light touch such as might help him as an ambassador? Questioned by an Irish Unionist M.P. the other day in the House, he spoke in his reply of the "so-called Unionist party". A slight "scene" was the result, but Mr. Bryce explained that he used the expression in a festive spirit. We like Mr. Bryce's notion of festivity. The wit in guardedly describing your opponent as a "so-called Imperialist" or "a self-styled Free Trader" is immense; it is just about equal to the irony of those who, when they wish to convey a sense of great scorn, linger over the full Christian names and titles of their victims—"The Right Honourable Joseph Chamberlain", "William Ewart Gladstone", and so forth.

With all his sympathy the Prime Minister could not see his way to star the Bill Mr. Duffy brought in on Wednesday to expropriate the estates of Lord Clanricarde. Mr. Duffy is scarcely singular in his view that Lord Clanricarde is not the, well, the ideal landlord: this is a view subscribed to by some other people. But we do not follow Mr. Duffy quite when he says "out of Ireland Lord Clanricarde is a phenomenon; in Ireland he is the curse of his class". Is he not a phenomenon in Ireland as well as out of it? Is not Mr. Duffy himself a phenomenon? How can any man even in dear, whimsical, surprising Ireland or out of it escape being a phenomenon? As for this Bill, we doubt—as evidently does the Prime Minister—whether it is practical. Many people vehemently object to the Soap Trust. Probably indeed the Soap Trust incurs as much blame as does Lord Clanricarde. But it would not be reasonable to bring in a Bill to expropriate Mr. Lever's soap because he made a Trust of it.

Mr. Balfour has been speaking with great vigour all this session—we mean the autumn sitting; generally, in fact, he has been in much better Opposition fettle than before the holidays. Certainly he has never been more vigorous or more effective than on Wednesday, when he exposed the Government's anti-Peer bluster. Evidently he is in no mood for compromise—still less for surrender. As he says, the secret of the extreme irritation of the Prime Minister and Mr. Birrell is that their little plan has been unmasked. The concessions were put in the Bill for show—they might safely be trusted not to work—but the House of Lords have made them real, or some of them. Mr. Balfour got in an especially nasty one when he asked why the Government were so willing to trust the local authorities when there was fear of their proving anti-Church in their administration, but would not trust where there was a chance of their being pro-Church.

We wonder whether Mr. Birrell in his heart of hearts is really happier in his *Paradise of Little Bethel* than he was in his "Paradise of Bores" over which he loved to wring his hands. Mr. Balfour clearly has some such doubts, as the light passages of his speech show. One can well imagine how, a little while ago—before he was sure of office—Mr. Birrell would have made fun of "the weary and confused clauses, the interminable and obscure sentences" which make up what by the irony of events is his own Education Bill. What a repast for a hypersensitive literary stomach! "Repulsive" Mr. Balfour in his delightful badinage described it. But Mr. Balfour hit off Mr. Lloyd-George still better—"a gentleman of very quick resource who will toss off a

scheme of Home Rule for Wales between lunch and question time, and just now astonishingly bitter at the "sudden demise of his half-backed project".

The Education Bill entered on Report stage in the Lords on Thursday, when Lord Lansdowne made a general statement as to the intentions of the Opposition. The effect of his statement was that none of the crucial amendments made in Committee was to be abandoned. Clause 4 would be extended to rural schools; teachers would be allowed to give denominational lessons; religious teaching would be given within regulation school hours, and would be an integral part of the system of every elementary school. These are precisely the amendments which Government speakers have declared to be impossible of acceptance. Either the Government must surrender or the Bill will be dropped. It is not very difficult to guess what will happen.

On other points the Lords have made concessions to the Government. The most serious of these is the restoration of the Ministerial proposal that denominational teaching should be allowed only on two mornings a week in ordinary transferred schools. In Committee the Lords had extended this facility to every day. We regret this surrender, which Lord Lansdowne did not announce in his statement. In Clause 4 schools a two-thirds majority of parents taking part in the ballot takes the place of a bare majority. This seems reasonable. Then the liberty to give denominational teaching in rural single-school areas is extended to town schools, but made contingent on the judgment of the local authority as to practicability and necessity. In principle this new clause means a great deal, but in practice we believe it will come to little. Radical authorities will never deem the "facility" either reasonable or necessary. Lastly, a reference to the Commission has been substituted for the direction to the local authority to take over suitable voluntary schools. Report stage will be resumed on Monday.

Lord Robert Cecil's amendment on the Plural Voting Bill, to postpone it until a Woman's Suffrage Act should be passed, was as near as could be got to the clause which the women suffragists themselves asked the Government for in vain. We say women suffragists because they are very different people from the four hundred and twenty members of Parliament who have voted for women's franchise. These gentlemen of course did not vote for the amendment, and Mr. Balfour addressed them with a fine irony exquisitely adapted to the occasion. A finer specimen of the ironical appeal it would be difficult to find than this. "Every one of the four hundred and twenty gentlemen ought to welcome this stimulus to carrying out their pledges. Rightly gauging the temperament of these four hundred and twenty gentlemen, and rightly seeing that there could be no motive so strong applied to them as the motive of getting a party advantage out of the change, his noble friend sought to link together the great reform which had no party complexion with a simple change which had nothing but a party complexion." Do politicians ever blush for themselves?

Mr. Sherwell the Liberal candidate was top of the poll at Huddersfield on Tuesday. This is where we perhaps should have expected he would be—having read so many confident statements by "special correspondents" that he would find himself after the election at the bottom of the poll. The figures show that the Unionist party has slightly improved its position at Huddersfield, for Mr. Fraser polled more votes at this election than he did at the General Election; whereas, in figures, the Liberals and the Socialists stand in about the same relations to one another now as they did. But Huddersfield does really emphasise the fact that the Liberals and the advanced Labour party are now, practically, opponents.

Mr. Burns has had a sort of lecture delivered about him in the Reichstag by a National Liberal, Herr Beumer. Some of our newspapers have discovered that because Mr. Burns is described as "not a State Socialist" but as "a Social Democrat in the continental sense", that Mr. Burns "is not a Socialist". Neither is Mr.

Keir Hardie a State Socialist, so he is not a Socialist either; and if we are to say that, what are we to go by? If Herr Beumer had interviewed Mr. Keir Hardie as well as Mr. Burns, he would have found the difference in their views to be mostly as to trade unions. Mr. Burns believes "in reaching the goal of continental Social Democracy" through them. The more people get the more they want, he says. His rival would have workmen become as the Social Democrats of the Continent who have got on without trade unions because they have hardly had them.

The report of the Income-tax Committee is not Sir Charles Dilke's, the chairman's, draft but Sir Thomas Whittaker's and the less radical Liberals with the Conservative members. It offers no prospect of increased revenue or even of any appreciable relief to moderate incomes. Means for the social legislation of the Government are not to be obtained from juggling with the income-tax. It is not proposed to alter the present system of collection as far as possible "at the source" and there is to be no extension of abatements beyond incomes of £1,000 a year. Instead of this the principle of super-tax upon incomes exceeding £5,000 a year is recommended. Differentiation between earned and unearned incomes is thought feasible, if it is restricted to incomes not exceeding £3,000 a year. Beyond this limit all incomes are regarded as unearned; and should be liable to a higher tax; but exactly how the differentiation is to be made is not indicated.

The Royal Commission on Shipping "Rings" is to inquire into a subject which greatly excited public attention some years ago but which latterly has been somewhat superseded by more palpable forms of trusts like the Soap Combination. Whether the shipping arrangements amount to trusts in a strict sense or not, there has long been a belief that they affect trade injuriously. This belief was strongest when the tariff question began to stir up interest in all branches of commerce, especially as regards trade with the colonies. On the commission there are representatives of India, of the South African Colonies, of Australia and of New Zealand; with them are lawyers, manufacturers, ship-owners, railway directors, a Labour member, Mr. Maddison, who has been the editor of the *Railway Servants' paper*, and officials of Government departments, their chairman being the able shipping lawyer Mr. Arthur Cohen K.C. Their inquiry into facts is sure to be able and impartial; and if they recommend remedial measures their proposals will at least be disputed respectfully.

The Courts-martial arising out of the disturbances on the 4 and 5 November at Portsmouth have been going on during the week. The most serious charge was that against Stoker Moody of forming a mutinous assembly. On this he was acquitted, but he was convicted of inciting to join a mutinous assembly and was sentenced to five years' penal servitude. Considering the gravity of the offence the sentence is by no means too severe. The evidence showed clearly that the insubordination centred on the order "on the knee", which was resisted with such circumstances as set all discipline at defiance. At the second court-martial Robert Brown was acquitted of inciting to mutinous conduct but convicted of disobeying orders, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment. At the third court James Day was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment for incitement to a mutinous assembly, for attempting to strike an officer, and for violently resisting an escort. Six or seven other cases of the same kind were tried with similar results. The general result is that the courts have punished the men who took part in the mutinous assemblies, but they have not fixed any particular man or group of men with the actual making of plans and preparations for the outbreak.

Though the trial at the Old Bailey of the two Poplar Guardians, Gibbs and Smith, has ended in their acquittal, the evidence adds another chapter to the story of extravagance which was already before the public. The two Guardians go to Leatherhead to see one pauper; and they charge over four pounds for their railway and other expenses. They had, in fact,

travelled by a landau, ordered by the master of the workhouse, and paid for by the Guardians. Mr. Smith explained that he believed he was himself to pay his share of the hiring of the landau, but though he had asked for the bill he never got it. He also admitted that the items he charged were not accurate, but thought in view of the agitation then going on about extravagant expenditure it would look better not to charge for a landau. The whole trip was evidently looked on as a sort of "beanfeast" and in fact ended, as such affairs often do, in rude practical joking, which Smith resented; he quarrelled with his companions, and refused to come back in the landau. It is a sordid story at the best.

A new epoch in wireless telegraphy seems about to open with the Poulsen system which was explained on Tuesday to a distinguished audience of scientific men and others, under the presidency of Lord Armstrong, by its inventor who is a Dane. It replaces the present sparking oscillator by an apparatus for producing continuous electric waves. This effects a great economy of energy and has a further result of the highest importance to the transmission of clear, distinct and intelligible messages. An illustration is given from sound-waves. A pistol-shot near a piano would set all the strings in vibration; but a tuning-fork would make only that string of the piano give a sound which had a corresponding rate of vibration with the tuning-fork. So far telegraphists have had as it were to pick out a message from the strings all vibrating together; and interference between different lines of communication has been difficult to avoid. As the result of successful experiments the Poulsen system will soon be operating commercially; and it is likely to affect the possibilities of wireless telephonic communication.

So many people are now offering prizes varying from one thousand to ten thousand pounds to the man who flies a mile or so that we begin to doubt whether after all the thing is possible. If there was real likelihood of the prize being won, would shrewd newspapers run the grave risk of paying up? Certainly if men, as M. Santos Dumont and others claim, have at length learnt to fly, they look rather ridiculous on the wing. Of the various aeroplanes which have been constructed, one looks like a perambulator and a number of empty biscuit boxes fastened together, and another like a bit of the Crystal Palace roof falling to pieces.

Very eloquent descriptions have been made, during the last week or so, of the sport enjoyed by King Haakon and his host at Windsor. This time the "Royal Party", it appears, has not been "bringing down" the pheasants with rifles. But the highly illustrated press would have us suppose that the sport was none the less of a sensational character. In several cases the guns are represented as firing down the line, whilst guns, keepers, loaders, beaters, and spectators—and pheasants—are packed together in quite a solid body. According to one descriptive writer "over 900" pheasants were brought down: but, if the scene were really anything like the illustration that accompanied his article, the chief question might be "how many men were brought down?" But pictures of royal sports are after all, like pictures of terrible battles and shipwrecks, home-made. So we are thankful to know that neither King Edward nor King Haakon was in the danger the picture papers would have us suppose.

We could not advise anyone who cares only for hard fact and practice to read the message of Count Tolstoy to the Chinese people, which we give this week. It is curious and transcendental, but we fear, as Lord Rosebery would say, it will not wash. The programme of Anacharsis Klostz himself might compare well with Count Tolstoy's, so far as practice goes—not that we would liken for a moment Klostz to Tolstoy. We like the idea of the return to the peaceful pastoral life which Count Tolstoy recommends; it is charming; but how are you to be "peaceful" and happy and detached in the midst of all the scourges and whips and scorns in which we are told the Chinese and the Russians and all the peoples of the East are constantly involved?

MR. BALFOUR'S CHALLENGE.

THIS is a commonplace title, but it expresses more exactly than could any other phrase as short, perhaps any other phrase at all, the present political position. The attitude of Unionists is now not one of defence, but of challenge, and Mr. Balfour gave full and nice expression to it in his speech, which it is no platitude to describe as great, on Wednesday. As Mr. Balfour well put it, the Government in order to obscure the educational issue and to divert attention from the actual facts of the Bill began lustily to sound the democratic drum. Cheap denunciation of lords, "bloated aristocrats", "will of the people", and so on was to save the situation. Now it is no doubt true that most people will come out at the sound of a drum: some from martial ardour, more from curiosity, most from having nothing better to do. But it does not at all follow that when they have come they will fight, still less that they will fight on the side of the drummer. And when expecting a big fight, or at the least a brave show, they find only a few little boys playing at soldiers, or a cheap-jack calling attention to the wares he wants to palm off on the public, those who come out to see are apt to be annoyed. They are not unlikely to turn on those who brought them out for nothing. This is precisely the reward the Government is preparing for itself. On its own motion it makes a great outburst against the House of Lords, using the biggest words it can command and the loudest tones. The country, and especially the Government's own followers, will naturally expect after this exordium a genuine and mighty attack on the House of Lords—the biggest political job a party could take in hand; since the Lords must either be frightened into committing suicide or be slain by revolution. The Peers, right or wrong, have never shown any disposition to accept the gift of the white girle; they have shown a much stronger tendency to use it to hang some one else. The worst enemies of the Peers will hardly accuse them of disregard for their own interests. They are not likely in any case to be frightened into deposing themselves or into renouncing their constitutional right of revision. On the other hand to compel them to do this by revolution is perhaps still more difficult. Every intelligent Radical knows what a tremendous business this is to take in hand; he knows that such a contest would take many years to settle, ousting all other political projects in the meantime and delaying to the Greek Kalends not only much social legislation desired by the whole country, but especially most of the pet and peculiar fads of the Radical party. Nothing in fact could induce a responsible Liberal politician to enter seriously on such a campaign but a self-denying resolve to sacrifice the present and all his own ambitions in the interests of a future he will never see. It is just conceivable a Radical politician might begin a real attack on the House of Lords in this lofty moral mood; but he certainly would not do it without well counting the cost and making sure that the occasion for the attack was happy. He would always remember that even if his case were exceedingly good, it were far more than likely that public opinion would change and go against him, perhaps out of very sickness of the struggle, long before the struggle was over. The mob of Liberals, the unthinking elements of the party, might indeed at the start hail a campaign against the Lords with delight, not knowing what it would mean; but they would be proportionately incensed if they found that their leaders, who knew the difficulty of the undertaking, did not mean business; and they would be the first to weary when they found how much longer and more difficult a business it was proving than they had expected. In short there will never be a serious attack on the Peers' power of revision until the Peers against the wishes of practically the whole population do or refuse to do something, and persist in opposing the country in the teeth of two or three consecutive electoral decisions uniformly adverse to the Lords. No question on which there is really serious difference of opinion amongst the people will ever be the occasion of a serious assault on the House of Lords. To succeed an assault on the Lords will have to be a virtually non-party assault.

If this is true, we can easily gauge the reality of the blasts against the Lords of the Prime Minister and Mr. Birrell and the bellicose Nonconformists. Mr. Balfour gauged it without any difficulty. Put in popular phrase, there was nothing for Mr. Balfour to do but to say "Come on": which he did say without either reservation or compunction. If the Government's threats are anything more than noise and bluster, let them do something and we can at any rate take them seriously. If they believe that the House of Lords is acting directly against the will of the people, let them go to the people, when, if they are right, their protests will be vindicated. Why are they afraid to go to the country? Are they so impressed with the courage and independence of the Lords that they think an election returning the same Ministry with a majority as large or larger than the present would have no effect on the Lords? The explanation is of course that they do not believe in their own case. They are afraid of losing. They know that the Education Bill is, as Mr. Balfour said, an impossible issue on which to raise the country against the Lords. During the course of an election the facts would begin to come home to the people, and they would see the absurdity of pretending that the House of Lords has not a constitutional right to exercise a power of revision in the case of a Bill on which opinion is deeply divided right from top to bottom of every class of society. It is in no sense a social or class issue. The Peers are divided among themselves about the Bill; the middle classes very deeply divided; and the working classes are of very varying mind about it. Even if, as Mr. Birrell puts it, it were a question of the Church of England against Nonconformity, is the House of Lords to hold that Nonconformity is the nation, and that Anglicans and Roman Catholics count for nothing? Why should the Lords consider that because the majority of Nonconformists are against them, the nation as a whole is? We all know the Government can take refuge in the legal position that the House of Commons represents the people, and the House of Commons is with them. That is a pedantry which may do for ordinary political questions, but it will not avail to settle a constitutional point, fundamental in character, such as the veto or rather revising power of the House of Lords. The Lords have to consider not the momentary majority of the Lower House, but the real and continuing disposition of the country as a whole. Looking at the situation from that point of view, they can laugh at the thunders of the Ministry. The ordeal by the people is open to the Government. We do not say there is any reason why they should dissolve if they do not wish to dissolve. While they command a majority in the House of Commons, they are under no duty to go to the country. But they must not go about saying that we are flouting the people, flying in their face, and so forth, when we are willing, and they are reluctant, to try the one test which will show whether the people is with the Lords or with the Government.

We do not regard the issue touching the position of the House of Lords as turning on any detail of their treatment of the Education Bill. If the Lords were wrong in every amendment they may send down to the Commons and persisted in every one of these wrong amendments, there still would be no constitutional case against them. Their conviction would amount to nothing but a mistake of judgment in matters of education. To argue that the Lords ought to be deprived of their position because they are liable to err is merely silly. For an attack on the Lords to succeed Radicals will have to prove a great deal more than that.

The upshot of the whole position is that the Government is now seen to be on its defence. Its bluffing has failed. It has now either to climb down or drop its principal Bill. It cannot do either without great damage to its prestige and power. The Lords have given way a good deal on Report stage—too much for our liking. But it appears from the proceedings of the Liberal Federation, blessed by the Prime Minister, on the one hand and from the Archbishop of Canterbury's reply to the National Society's deputation on the other, that the issue will turn on allowing the regular teachers to give denominational religious teaching, on extending

Clause 4 to rural schools, and on the two-thirds majority of parents. If the Government give way on these points they may yet save their Bill; otherwise it will die. These specific points responsible and moderate Liberal opinion, as expressed for instance in the "Westminster Gazette", has pronounced to be crucial. The Government are left to the pleasant problem whether it is better to stultify themselves or sacrifice their Bill. Dare Mr. Birrell go back to his constituents and present them with "a little thing and not even mine own"?

THE MOORISH MUDDLE.

THE state of affairs in Morocco grows worse daily though Europe seems to contemplate the disorder with undisturbed composure. Sir Edward Grey at all events professes complete confidence in the capacity of France and Spain to restore order. But this is not an attitude which can long remain. The awakening may come at any moment and the only question is, What form will intervention take and who will intervene? After all when the subjects of European Powers are compelled hourly to undergo fear of pillage, insult or a violent death, consideration for the feelings of other nations cannot stand for ever in the path of order and justice. If the State that has invited Europe to charge it with the duty fails to act, can the others stand by and see anarchy and demoralisation still raging at their doors to the imminent danger of the peace of North Africa? This is a question which must be considered by this country perhaps more particularly than by others for we have been peculiarly instrumental in establishing France in her present position. The use that she is making of it may be gauged by two incidents recorded this week. The first is significant of the prestige enjoyed by the mandatory of Europe and the second supplies the reason. We learn that French naval officers from the warship lying off Tangier are only allowed to land in mufti, for if they appear in uniform they are subjected to insult. In the second place some ground for the slight esteem entertained for French prestige by the Moors is afforded by the fact that the house of the "Times" correspondent just outside Tangier was on Tuesday attacked by an armed force and the fusillade lasted an hour in full view of the French and Spanish men-of-war which have been sent to Tangier to protect Europeans. Apparently their commanders are under orders not to annoy the population by any untoward demonstrations of sympathy with the unfortunate protégés of France and Spain. If the French fleet is really to sail, will its attitude be less passive? Of this there is no certainty, but if France believes a mere display of force is enough she deceives herself.

The only question that arises in such a state of affairs as this is whether the penultimate or the last stage of the farce has been reached. It is not necessary to recur to the days which followed the Anglo-French Agreement of 1904, when it was believed that France seriously intended the subjection of Morocco. We disliked that arrangement from the belief that the absorption of that country by France might ultimately become inconvenient to England. We confess that we did not for a moment apprehend the abandonment by France of the rôle she had assumed and her complete effacement as a protecting Power. Matters of course changed completely after the events of the spring of 1905 and a brief survey of more recent occurrences shows the extreme gravity of the present situation. We were all congratulating ourselves that the change of Government in this country made no difference in the loyalty with which we had observed our engagements to France, who maintained that she emerged from Algeiras with her claims to precedence in Morocco unimpaired. The instruction of the native police in certain ports was indeed specifically entrusted to her and Spain, the "instructors" to be under a Swiss inspector. The arrangement may have been an ingenious method of avoiding difficulties at the time, but a short experience has shown its inherent absurdities, or perhaps we should say the extraordinary supineness of the two Governments concerned,

for they have not taken the trouble even to ratify the Algeciras provisions between themselves and still less have they troubled to appoint their "instructors" or the inspector. This is the more extraordinary on the part of France, for she has on the Morocco border in Algeria large numbers of experienced men. If there had been any difficulty in getting the Algeciras machinery to work, the French authorities might have acted at once to protect life and property. Indeed, if they were not prepared to do so, what right have they to claim the premier rôle in the country?

A bare enumeration of incidents that have occurred during seven months gives some indication of the necessities of the present position. In the early spring M. Charbonnier, a French subject, was assassinated at Tangier. Satisfaction was promised but none has ever been exacted and the murderers are still at large. A few weeks later four German merchants walking on the seashore were robbed of everything by bandits who have never been captured. In July a servant of the Russian Legation was arbitrarily seized and imprisoned. In August some sailors of a French ship who landed in the neighbourhood of Tangier to obtain fresh water were fired upon. During the same month a new governor arrived at Tangier, Belghasi by name, but to reach his post he had to fight his way through a hostile tribe. Belghasi is said to be a redoubtable warrior, but he enjoys no power beyond a certain small river, a mile or two to the east of the city. Everything beyond that belongs to Raisuli whose good offices are requisitioned by traders and others who desire peaceful passage. To show the reality of this astute bandit's power not only over Moors but also over Europeans, we may cite the case of a French subject, M. Robic, who had the temerity to fence in his property in the country. Raisuli promptly sent some of his followers to knock down the fence, which they did without any effectual protest on the part of the French representative. Indeed it would be a mistake to suppose that the power of this Hadgi-Stavros de nos jours is confined to the country districts. Not long ago his followers in the very market-place of Tangier flogged a woman and tortured one of his opponents under the eyes of the representatives of Europe.

Now these incidents it must be remembered have occurred in the green tree. Tangier is the most easily accessible to European influence of all Moorish towns and it is within sight of Gibraltar. What then is to be expected in the dry wood of inland cities or of towns on the coast more remote from European influences like Mogador. Here the tribes of mountain and plain are in constant conflict and all commerce is practically at a standstill. The Caïd of the hill-dwellers is practically supreme up to the city itself, he even exacts tribute at the gates and ill-treats the unlucky foreigner be he Jew or Gentile. Not long ago a French cruiser appeared, whose crew was insulted at Tangier. The Caïd then betook himself to the hills till the cruiser was requisitioned elsewhere, when he renewed his depredations. The last instance we need produce is that of the small town of Arzila, not important in itself, but a port where Europeans trade. Here the Kabyles of the mountain recently carried the town by assault, massacred the Moorish garrison, pillaged shops, killed Jews and maltreated Spanish subjects. No European intervention took place and the inhabitants in the end petitioned Raisuli to come and re-establish law and order.

The European public has a short memory, and both in France and England the one desire of all men has been to have no mention of Morocco. It is hardly more excusable in the one case than the other, but the time has surely come when Europe must inquire whether or no France seriously intends to take up the task she invited the world to lay upon her. She is peculiarly well situated to carry it out, and unless she is prepared to give up Algeria must face the necessity of keeping order on that frontier, where agitation is rapidly growing to a head and at any moment may demand the attention of a considerable military force. General Lyantey is said to be a competent man and one must assume he can be trusted to conduct any operations to a successful issue. The grave question is, How far will the French Government venture to go or

how far will it be allowed to go? We are not hopeful. It is not to be disguised that to attempt the pacification of Morocco may mean a very large military expedition and the subsequent administration of the country. At all events that has been the result of all similar interferences in the past. The Sultan is clearly incapable and at the mercy of any wandering Mullah that threatens a religious war. The Maghzen is hostile and relies on German influence to check a French movement. Germany could not object to the restoration of order with guarantees for the future. But the readiness of France to act may be measured by the fact that no interpellation for many months was addressed to the Government on the subject, and that no serious effort is made by public men to bring home to the French the grave responsibility they have incurred to Europe and the civilised world. If the farce continues running much longer, every Power will have to consider the question of acting for itself in defence of the obligations of all civilised States.

THE EARLDOM OF NORFOLK.

MORE than six centuries ago Roger Bigod, having it is said quarrelled with John his brother and debtor, surrendered his Earldom of Norfolk to the first Edward. This week a Committee of the House of Lords has declared Earl Roger's surrender illegal and void. This case has dragged its weary length through five years and must have cost the parties concerned thousands of pounds, and yet, as if in spite, the decision rests on a point which never developed until the dispute was well-nigh over. Originally the only question thought to be worthy of debate was that of abeyance, the assumption being that if an earldom followed the same rules of descent as a barony, it too could pass through co-heiresses. Roger Bigod's surrendered earldom, to the discomfiture of John his brother, but recently tardily revenged, was granted to Thomas of Brotherton the son of the first and brother of the second Edward. To him, dying, succeeded a daughter whose son became Duke of Norfolk, the higher title thus overshadowing the lower, though older. In the heirs-male of the Norfolk line the lower title slept through all the troublous times of the Howards with all their attainders and forfeitures, restorations and rehabilitations until heirs-general eventually took it away to be left in abeyance amongst other noble houses. From one of these stocks is descended the present Lord Mowbray, whose claim has just been disallowed. To the confusion of many people who have followed this interesting controversy the appearance and strenuous fight of the Duke of Norfolk have been very perplexing. He too comes in direct descent from this same Thomas of Brotherton, but being of a junior branch is postponed to the senior stock which Lord Mowbray claims to represent. He was only successful in getting admitted to take part in the dispute after a very strong preliminary fight, and owed his presence to the fact that in 1644 one of his ancestors hit upon the idea of getting a re-creation of the Earldom of Norfolk with limitation to heirs-male. Thus being an Earl of Norfolk, of whatever creation is immaterial, the present Duke had a right to fight any other person claiming to be Earl of Norfolk.

So there were, it was thought, two distinct Earldoms of Norfolk. The Duke is the undoubted possessor of the 1644 Earldom, while Lord Mowbray claims to be the senior heir-general of Thomas of Brotherton, who himself certainly believed that he had been made an Earl by his brother in 1312. But this the Lords now tell us is quite a mistake. Both the king and his brother were in error. The king had no earldom to give, so his brother could not receive what the king did not possess, hence Lord Mowbray, to use a colloquial expression, does not "come in at all". The process by which the Lords of to-day have over-ruled their early fourteenth-century ancestors has been arrived at by a strict application of precedents fixed and developed only in Stuart days. In feudal times there is not the least doubt that the king frequently took baronies and earldoms into his own hands both by forfeiture and surrender, and we fancy there

would have been several sudden vacancies in the House of Lords of those days if any of its members had presumed to dispute such procedure. The truth is that then our parliamentary system was in embryo and the legislative duties of the nobility were regarded as far less important than the profits and privileges derived from their fiefs. With the land went the title, both ways. But as the functions of Parliament became more clear a system rapidly crystallised and it became necessary for the nobles vigorously to defend a privilege which had now become valuable—the right of sitting in an hereditary chamber. The matter came to a climax in the reign of Charles II., when, in deciding the claim to the barony of Grey de Ruthyn, the House laid down a principle which, being interpreted, is that a peerage belongs to its holder for life only and such holder can never surrender, or get rid of it, to the exclusion of his heirs; in other words the blood is ennobled, and while it lasts corruption by attainder alone can hinder the descent. Subsequently in the Purbeck case the rule was even more strongly insisted on, and to-day the Lords assert that they are bound by these two decisions. The decision in this Norfolk claim may, however, have far-reaching effects. In effect it is now settled law that although many peerages were surrendered in old days every such surrender must now be regarded as entirely ineffective and illegal. There are living to-day numbers of people who can establish clear descent from those who purported to make surrenders, who if they can be found and properly labelled, could immediately put in good claims to titles belonging to several well-known families. The regrettable ignorance of law shown by feudal kings and barons, coupled with the application of logical legal principles to uncertain facts of ancient date, may after all bring about a considerable increase in the number of the peers—a condition of things which probably neither ancient barons nor modern lords desired. This is no flight of fancy, as Lord Davey has, in his opinion, very pithily said, "Supposing a descendant of the Bigods came here to-day and asked for his writ as Earl of Norfolk, where would either claimant be"? Quite so; and if the very latest method of procedure as to recovering great estates be adopted, we may yet see a private company floated for the recovery of other ancient earldoms.

But the claim was originally brought on the ground of abeyance—a term applied to the condition of suspension into which a peerage limited to heirs-general goes when there is more than one co-heir. When an abeyance occurs it is in the pleasure of the Crown to terminate it in favour of one of the co-heirs, the fortunate petitioner taking his seat with the precedence of the ancient creation. This has been long settled as to baronies, but as to earldoms no authoritative case appears ever to have come before the Lords. One nearly did when the present Countess of Cromartie petitioned Queen Victoria to terminate in her favour the abeyance then said to be existing of the Earldom of Cromartie—an English earldom. But Queen Victoria took matters into her own hands and issued letters patent which not only presupposed an abeyance but purported to end it. Whether this action was legal, or what particular limitations this earldom possesses in law, can only be decided when a future son of that House applies to the Lord Chancellor of the day for his writ of summons, unless some kind heir-general claimant to another earldom comes forward in the meantime. The Norfolk decision does not even supply *obiter dicta* on this question, as the Lords in accordance with their usual custom dealt only with such matters as were immediately in point. The balance of expert opinion seems rather to lean in favour of believing no difference to exist between baronies and earldoms in this matter of abeyance, and probably future research will help this view.

It was interesting to note also how summarily the Lords dealt with the suggestion that just as a writ of summons to sit in Parliament as a baron (followed by a sitting) created a dignity descendible to heirs-general, so a writ of summons in the name of an earl established an hereditary earldom. Nothing of the kind was the reply: an earldom is something more than a dignity. It had in old times all the

attributes of an office and for its creation there must have been granted a valid charter, or the full ceremonies of institution, such as girding on the sword, must have been performed in Parliament. Lord Mowbray imagined—as his ancestor undoubtedly did too—that an earldom had been created, while all that happened was that the summons to Thomas of Brotherton, though in the name of an earl, created only a barony descendible to his heirs-general. Presumably, therefore, Lord Mowbray is now one of the heirs-general to a barony which no one clearly knows the name of and whose existence—in a state of suspended animation—was only discovered a few days ago: its date is 1312, but as the Mowbray title has an earlier date little is gained. So the great case is over. The claimant to an earldom finds it never existed, while incidentally he discovers he may lay claim to a barony which was never meant to be granted. But we are told there are other earldoms: let the upstart holders of these beware! The law is not an ass; it is merely logical.

THE UNFITNESS OF THE SENIOR WRANGLER.

ON Thursday, 25 October, 1906, the Senate of the University of Cambridge approved twelve resolutions submitted by the special Board of Mathematics. The resolutions thus carried contained the essential principles of a complete scheme of reform of the Mathematical Tripos, and regulations for the examination, which would be submitted were the principles approved, were previous to the vote published for the information of members of the Senate. Notwithstanding this fact, certain members of the opposition, before they knew whether the special board would make any change in the suggested regulations, adopted the most unusual course of announcing that these regulations would be opposed when they were formally proposed as a grace. They have thus determined, not without the grave disapproval of some of their friends, to try to reverse the decision already given in the hope that by an appeal to the conservative instincts of non-resident members of the Senate they may crush the reforms. These reforms are supported by all the professors in mathematics and allied subjects of study in the University, by all the University lecturers in mathematics, and by the entire mathematical staffs of such important colleges as Trinity, King's, Caius and Christ's.

It may be well if we analyse the reasons assigned for this course, and at the same time indicate the causes which have led practically all the most important members of the Mathematical faculty in the University to advocate changes which have met with such bitter opposition. For the decision now lies with the non-resident members of the Senate.

The proposals have an almost national importance. The study of higher mathematics in the British Empire is practically concentrated at Cambridge. The ablest graduates in mathematics of provincial English, Scotch, Colonial and Indian Universities come to Cambridge to complete their mathematical education. Cambridge mathematicians occupy chairs in nearly every University of the British Empire. The leaders of the Mathematical faculty at Cambridge are justly proud of this pre-eminence and naturally anxious to retain the prestige of their school. But they recognise that this supremacy is doomed unless the University realises that its function is not only to train brilliant specialists in the results of modern research, but also to develop those aspects of mathematics useful for cognate subjects of study. Thus on the one hand the University must foster a spirit of research lest it become the dead insular school of a century ago, and on the other it must give a sound elementary training to those who shall be the physicists and engineers needed by a modern nation. The Cambridge School of Physics is perhaps the most brilliant in the world. The School of Engineering is one of the best equipped in the country and its importance in the University has increased fourfold during the last decade. The professors of physics and engineering insist on the importance of a preliminary mathematical training for their students and deplore the inadequacy of the curriculum of the present Mathematical Tripos. Nor are

the mathematicians themselves satisfied with this examination. The number of candidates has fallen almost continuously since 1892, and the Tripos list is now little more than half its former size. The present regulations are habitually disregarded by examiners who have yielded to the natural temptation to show their own genius in devising questions which even the best men fail to solve. The Mathematical Board accordingly propose far-reaching though by no means revolutionary changes. They recommend the institution of an elementary examination to be called the "Mathematical Tripos, Part I.", which shall be taken after one or two years of residence by all mathematicians and by the abler engineers and physicists. The mathematicians will gain by seeing more clearly the application of their subject to physical investigations; the engineers and physicists will have the great advantage of a sound preliminary training in mathematics. After three years of residence the mathematicians will take the "Mathematical Tripos, Part II.". There they will find an examination suited to varying grades of ability and different specialised powers. There will be some comparatively elementary questions so that the third-class man may obtain honours as easily as heretofore. There will also be two schedules: one to be taken by all candidates, and another, containing more advanced developments of modern mathematics, from which the more able men will choose subjects suited to their special genius. The first schedule will carry on the best traditions of the present Part I. and give the men that analytical skill for which Cambridge is justly famous. The second will give the professional mathematicians a more simple examination than the unduly difficult present Part II., and will encourage at least as well the same spirit of research.

Such are the proposals evolved by the Mathematical Board after two years' anxious deliberation. They are sound, sober, reasonable: why then have they met with such bitter opposition?

In the first place the private "coaches" do not like the change. Their carefully prepared lecture notes will have to be recast; new ideas will have to be laboriously acquired and presented: that divorce between mathematics and experimental science which is their joy will be at an end. They are a powerful body with great influence, and but for some brilliant exceptions they solidly oppose the change.

In the second place the Senior Wrangler and the order of merit cannot continue to exist under the new conditions. At present the Senior Wrangler is a fraud: he acquires his title on the present elementary Part I., whose results are often confuted by Part II. and the Smith's Prizes. He would be even more fraudulent were the title given on the proposed Part I. with its still narrower range of subjects. It would be impossible to arrange the candidates in the proposed Part II. in an order of merit, for they will specialise in such different subjects that comparison is impossible. All that can be done is to arrange men in classes of Wranglers, Senior Optimes, and Junior Optimes, with marks of proficiency and distinction; and this is proposed by the Special Board. No doubt many who are convinced of the necessity of the change lament the disappearance of the Senior Wrangler. We cannot sympathise with their regret. This competition for places is unworthy of men at all. We are not sure it is good even for small boys. A University at any rate should have to do only with standards of merit. In any case the opposition, all of whom admit the necessity of some reform, elevate a sentimental regret to the rank of a question of principle. Trinity has had seven Senior Wranglers during the last four years: it is the most brilliant achievement in the history of that great foundation: yet its staff unanimously advocate the change. Further argument seems useless.

Those who continue to oppose the scheme assert that the resolutions were carried hurriedly by narrow majorities and use these arguments to justify their unusual course of action. In answer it may be said that the scheme in all its essential details had been before the Senate for five months before the recent vote, and that on the crucial vote in favour of the

abolition of the Order of Merit 164 residents voted placet and 111 non-placet, giving a majority of 53 in favour of the resolution. But mere figures give no indication of the strength of the movement for reform. Among the "placet" names there are most of the men of distinction in the University. Leaders of the Conservative and Liberal parties in the University, protagonists for and against Greek, for and against Women's Degrees, united in approval of the scheme. "Those who appreciate the importance of smooth and consistent working of the government of the University" cannot contemplate the laborious and expensive contest now forced on the Mathematical faculty without grave dissatisfaction.

THE CITY.

THE general tone of the Stock Exchange has been quite firm during the past week, although business has apparently not been heavy except in certain speculative stocks. Money conditions are unquestionably becoming easier and the Bank statement of Thursday was much stronger, which encourages one to believe that we shall see an early reduction in the official minimum. Should gold continue to come from Paris, as we have reason to believe it will, we should not be at all surprised to see a reduction even before the end of the year, but this may be prevented by the provincial demand at Christmas, which will amount to about £5,000,000; however, with the New Year we quite expect to see a marked easing off in money rates and the corollary should be improved quotations for all gilt-edged securities. The American Railroad market has not been quite so active, the Union Pacific report not having come up to expectations. The rumour is again current that the Atchison will increase their dividend and considerable lines of this stock have been bought in the belief that the dividend declaration will be on a 6 per cent. basis. In our opinion the stock of the Southern Pacific is a cheaper purchase than Atchison and it is somewhat puzzling to understand why Southern Pacific remain at 97, while Atchison are quoted at 106, as the Southern Pacific Company is earning fully 10 per cent. The chief speculative section of the House has continued to be in the various Siberian companies and in the Deep Lead mining properties in Australia. It is, however, difficult to believe that the huge appreciation in the Siberian mining companies is warranted in every case. One most objectionable feature is the manner in which these various companies are introduced on the market, as with few exceptions (one being that of the Kluchi Gold Mines, the prospectus of which has just been published) no public prospectus has been issued and the shares are "introduced" into the market with the barest information possible. The following statement will illustrate the great growth in Siberian companies, most of which were unknown to the market a year ago, and in our opinion the market capitalisation of nearly seven millions is not justified in view of the present state of developments:—

	Authorised Capital.	Issued.	Price.	Market Value.
Siberian Proprietary ..	100,000	94,200	14	1,318,800
Orsk	600,000	500,000	2½	1,251,250
Troitsk	600,000	500,000	1½	751,250
Sesau Syndicate ..	30,000	14,786	9	133,074
Kaneika	350,000	250,000	1½	406,250
Siberian Mines ..	100,000	100,000	2½	257,000
Siberian Syndicate (sr. paid)	100,000	50,000	2½ pm.	123,875
Kluchi	280,000	115,000	1½	140,937
Nerchinsk	1,100,000	945,184	7½ pd.	354,436
H. A. Syndicate (sr. paid)	8,000	8,000	10 pm.	156,000
Spassky	300,000	250,000	5½	1,877,500
				£6,840,372

We have at various times commented on the United Railways of Havana stock and we understand that recent important developments have taken place which should still further enhance the value of this security. The policy of the company has been to acquire those railway systems immediately connecting with the United Railways of Havana, and in pursuance of this the Cardenas Railway and the Martanzas Railway have been purchased. We believe that as the result of recent negotiations the company has acquired the controlling interest in the Havana Central Railroad which owns about one hundred miles of electric line

together with terminals situated in the heart of the city of Havana.

There has been a considerable expansion of business in nearly all foreign rails. Mexican descriptions having been the special feature. Argentine issues have also been strong, the whole list showing an advance with the exception of Bahia Blanca preference shares and debentures, which are easier in consequence of the recent public issue of new preference shares not having been entirely successful. We notice that an adverse criticism of the new Bahia Blanca shares is based upon the fact that the old preference can be bought at a price to yield about $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. over a term of years during which the existing 3 per cent. rate will automatically be increased to $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., after taking into account the appreciation in capital value. This aspect of the old shares from the point of view of the investor who is not much affected by the difference in income during the eleven years which must run before $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. is reached, is unquestionably correct, and the excellence of the old shares on this basis was pointed out by us several months ago, but there is a large body of investors to whom an immediate income on safe lines is essential. It is to this class that the new shares should appeal—the merits of the respective shares should be looked at from a standpoint applicable to the special circumstances: in our opinion the new shares constitute a well-secured $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. investment.

The negotiations to which we referred last week as taking place between the Chartered Company and a group of German bankers for the purpose of supplying electric power to the Rand from the Victoria Falls, are proceeding satisfactorily, and will, we understand, necessitate an issue of about £600,000 in preference shares, the further funds required for the scheme being provided by the issue of bonds to the financial groups who are concerned. A scheme of this magnitude must necessarily take some time to complete, but the fact that German capital is forthcoming to promote an object which, if successful, must be a great element in the future prosperity of the Witwatersrand Goldfields, is additional evidence of the business enterprise of the Germans, to whom one is compelled to turn in almost any scheme requiring imagination. One could have wished that a group of English and Canadian financiers had taken this particular scheme in hand, for the Canadians have a wide experience in the development of water-power, but one cannot expect this to be done without a lead from English capitalists. German banks are conducted on broad lines and receive every encouragement and diplomatic assistance from their Government to establish themselves in foreign countries. Lack of enterprise on the part of our own merchants and bankers makes the accomplishment of this policy comparatively easy.

INSURANCE: THE NORWICH UNION VALUATION.

THE Norwich Union Life Office is a remarkable example of what is possible under the control of financial and commercial genius. The results are different both in kind and in degree from those which are accomplished by mere capacity. The Valuation report which has just been presented to the policyholders tells a striking tale. Only four valuation periods ago the assurances in force amounted to £5,000,000, whereas now they are £29,000,000. The annual premium income has been multiplied by more than six in the course of twenty years, and the Society from being little known has become at least as well known as any; the obtaining of business has been immensely facilitated, and the Society can now select its policyholders almost as it wills.

We have continually explained that bigness by itself is of little advantage to the policyholders of a life office: it does benefit them for the company to be well known and to have large funds, but more often than not these advantages are obtained at too great a cost. Especially when a company grows great rapidly a heavy rate of expenditure is usually incurred, and this outweighs the gains from bigness. In regard to this point as in so many others, the Norwich Union is quite exceptional.

An expansion, unusually rapid, has been accompanied by a decrease in expenditure exceptionally large. Only so recently as 1897 the expenses were 65 per cent. of new premiums and $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of renewals, whereas last year they had fallen to 55 per cent. of new premiums and $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of renewals. When we remember that the normal expenditure of British companies is 80 per cent. and 8 per cent. respectively the economy with which the Norwich Union is managed, and still more the continued improvement in economy, is seen to be very great. In 1886, the liabilities were valued at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. instead of at 4 per cent. as previously. This change to the lower rate of interest of course increased the financial strength and improved the bonus prospects of the office. Another step forward was taken when a 3 per cent. valuation was made, and yet further improvement was made in 1901 when the liabilities were valued at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. concurrently with a further increase in the rate of bonus declared. In 1906 the bonus was again increased and the valuation basis made even more stringent than before: this time the British Offices Mortality Table was employed in place of the Healthy Males, thereby strengthening the reserves to the extent of £70,000, the interest upon which is a continual source of additional surplus, as well as an extra margin for security, added to a balance already of the strongest. As a result of this continued increase in financial strength the bonuses which at the 1896 valuation were of the cash value of 27 per cent. of the premiums paid, increased to 30 per cent. in 1901 and to 33 per cent. this year. Success of this order directly conduces to still further prosperity.

The retirement of the Chairman of the Society in consequence of ill-health is much regretted. Mr. T. C. Blofeld's addresses at the annual meetings of the Society revealed his ability as president, and his work at the Board has been of the very greatest value to the policyholders. The new president is chairman of the Norwich and London Accident Company and was formerly vice-president of the Norwich Union Life.

INSIDE THE HOUSE.

(BY A CONSERVATIVE MEMBER.)

THE application of the closure to the report stage of the Plural Voting Bill called forth the usual protest from the Opposition, and was the occasion of a very clever speech by Mr. Balfour. In fact, however, it was agreed in the Lobby that there is no longer much reality about such debates. The closure by compartments may be accepted in future as a constant feature of both the committee and report stages of all contentious measures unless the time required to discuss the necessary resolution exceeds the probable economy under their operation. An incident of personal interest was that Mr. John Ellis, one of the backers of the Bill, supported the Government proposal in the teeth of an explicit assurance given by him in the closure debate on the last Conservative Education Bill that in no circumstances whatever would he ever again vote in favour of a closure by compartments resolution.

The discussion in report of the Bill was hardly enlivening, and one hears privately on every side strictures on the draftsmanship of the measure. The whole point of view of the proposals is exasperating even if one accepts the principle of single voting. Mr. Harcourt dawdles through the conduct of the Bill with the airs of an eighteenth-century beau dancing a minuet, and while one can never accuse him of incivility his silky pleasantries are perhaps less tolerable to those who sit opposite to him than Mr. Birrell's more virile humour.

In reality few have been thinking of plural voting and all have been talking of the Education Bill, the coming conflict between the Houses, and the Huddersfield election. In the smoke room, the dining rooms, and the lobbies groups of Liberals discuss the line of least resistance. The difficulty is universally admitted to be instant and grave, and half an hour's discussion with personal friends on the other side shows how profound is the cleavage of view among private members. All agree that there can be no appeal to the country on the Education issue alone, an admission full alike of significance and weakness. But here agreement fails.

About 130 rancorous dissenters are prepared to vote against their party if there is any weakening in what they are pleased to describe as "principle". This section would reject the amendments en bloc, march into battle under the banner of "no surrender", and sacrifice the Bill. This policy, it is pointed out by more moderate Liberals, would be sound and politic if the Government could afford to fight, but it is impossible of application in view of the general agreement that they cannot. Is another session to be devoted to Education? Ask a Nationalist, a Welsh member, a temperance reformer, or a Labour representative. All alike pronounce it to be impossible until their own claims have been satisfied. In these circumstances what, it is asked, will be the position of the Government failing any legislation during the next one or two years? Difficult if the West Riding judgment stands, it will become impossible if the decision is overruled. And amongst competent lawyers the opinion grows that the Court of Appeal has gone wrong. Are the Merry Andrews of passive resistance to protract their antics under the genial sway of Mr. Birrell? Talk of a short and more drastic measure is idle. No measure adequate to Liberal expectation can be short, and if the driving power is lacking to force the less drastic measure through the Lords whence can it be derived for the measure which is *ex hypothesi* to be more severe?

Among Unionists in the House these considerations are clearly appreciated, and there is much eagerness that no half-hearted compromise shall be accepted. The Government are in a difficulty of their own creation and it is no business of ours to extricate them. The Bill even as amended by the Lords is cumbersome, complex and inordinately expensive in its machinery. Let the Premier withdraw it and find some more popular reward for the hack platform service of his staff of dissenting divines. Their shrieks pass by us like the idle wind, and we promise ourselves no small pleasure when the pack of jackals gives tongue in discussion of the Lords' Amendments.

The Huddersfield election gives no party much cause for satisfaction though Liberal elation in the House was almost pathetic in its sudden expression. "What price Keir-Hardie now?" broke forth in uncontrollable triumph from below the Ministerial gangway. The rift between Labour and Liberalism is final and acute; no one affects to ignore it and few Liberals place confidence in the second ballot. The bitterest antagonism is and must remain between the Liberal candidate and the Labour candidate for they inevitably become rival cheap jacks, and forget to quarrel with the Tory. Few serious observers believe that in a second ballot the Liberal candidate would receive Labour support. Mr. Fraser it is thought in the House would have done more wisely to have retained his fiscal freedom. Eleventh-hour recantations conciliate no support and estrange much. It is significant that Mr. Fraser alone increased his vote in a smaller total poll, and that the increase roughly coincided with the estimated strength of the Catholic vote.

On Thursday the Workmen's Compensation Bill pursued an uneventful and non-contentious course. On the whole the week has been dull but it is the quietness which precedes the storm.

LETTER TO A CHINESE GENTLEMAN.*

BY LEO TOLSTOY.

I.

DEAR SIR,—I have received your books and read them with great interest, especially the "Papers from a Viceroy's Yamen".

The life of the Chinese people has always interested me in the highest degree and I have endeavoured to become acquainted with what was accessible in the life of the Chinese, especially with the Chinese wisdom, the books of Confucius, Mentze, Laotze and commentaries

* Translated by V. Tchertkoff (Editor of "The Free Age Press", Christchurch) and E. A. This letter, written by the Author, upon the completion by him of an exhaustive article on the meaning of Revolution in Russia may be regarded as a summary of the contents of the latter work which is now being prepared for publication (Trans.). No rights reserved.

upon them. I have also read about Chinese Buddhism and books by Europeans upon China. Latterly, moreover since those atrocities which have been perpetrated upon the Chinese by Europeans—amongst the others and to a great extent by Russians—the general disposition of the Chinese people has interested and does yet interest me.

The Chinese people whilst suffering so much from the immoral and coarsely egoistic avarice and cruelty of the European nations, has until lately answered all the violence committed against it with a magnanimous and wise tranquillity, preferring to suffer rather than to fight against this violence. I am speaking of the Chinese people but not about the government. This tranquillity and patience of the great and powerful Chinese people elicited only an increasingly insolent aggression from Europeans as is always the case with coarsely selfish people living merely an animal life as were the Europeans who had dealings with China. The trial which the Chinese have undergone and are now undergoing is a great and heavy one but precisely now is it important that the Chinese people should not lose patience or alter their attitude towards violence; so as not to deprive themselves of all the vast results which must follow the enduring of violence without returning evil for evil.

Only "he that endureth to the end the same shall be saved" is said in the Christian law, and I think that it is an indubitable truth although one which men find it hard to accept. Abstinence from returning evil for evil and non-participation in evil is the surest means not only of salvation but of victory over those who commit evil.

The Chinese could see a striking confirmation of the truth of this law after their surrender of Port Arthur to Russia. The greatest efforts to defend Port Arthur by arms against the Japanese and the Russians would not have produced such ruinous consequences for Russia and Japan as those material and moral evils which the surrender of Port Arthur to the former brought on Russia and Japan. The same will inevitably be the case with Wei-hai-Wei and Kiao-chau surrendered by China to England and Germany.

The success of some robbers elicits the envy of others and the prey seized becomes an object of dissension ruining the robbers themselves. Such is the case with dogs, such also is it with men who have descended to the level of animals.

II.

Therefore it is that I now with fear and grief hear and see in your book the manifestation in China of the spirit of strife, of the desire to resist forcibly the atrocities committed by the European nations. Were this to be the case, were the Chinese people indeed to lose patience, and arming themselves according to the methods of Europeans, to expel from their midst all the European robbers—which task they could easily accomplish with their intelligence, persistence, and energy, and above all by reason of their great numbers—it would be dreadful. Dreadful not in the sense in which this was understood by one of the coarsest and most benighted representatives of Western Europe, the German Emperor, not in the sense that China would become dangerous to Europe, but in the sense that China would cease to be the mainstay of your true practical national wisdom consisting in living that peaceful agricultural life which is natural to all rational men and to which those nations who have abandoned this life are bound sooner or later consciously to return.

III.

I think that in our time a great revulsion is taking place in the life of humanity, and that in this revulsion China at the head of the Eastern nations must play a grand part.

Methinks the vocation of the Eastern nations, China, Persia, Turkey, India, Russia and perhaps Japan, if she is not yet completely enmeshed in the net of depraved European civilisation—consists in indicating to all nations that true way towards freedom to which, as you say in your book, there is in the Chinese language no other word than Tao—the Way—i.e. an activity in conformity with the eternal and fundamental law of human life.

Freedom according to the teaching of Jesus is realised in this same way. "And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" is said in that teaching. And it is this freedom, which Western nations have almost irrecoverably lost, that the Eastern nations are, methinks, called to realise.

My idea is this :

From the most ancient times it has been the case that out of the midst of peaceful and laborious people there arose savage men who preferred violence to labour and these savage and idle men attacked and compelled the peaceful ones to work for them. So it has been both in the West and in the East amongst all nations who lived the state life and so it continued for ages and continues yet. But in olden times when conquerors seized vast populated spaces they could not do much harm to the subdued; the small number of rulers and great number of ruled, especially when the ways of communication were very primitive, produced upon large areas merely the result of bringing a small portion of the population into subjection to the violence of the rulers, whereas the majority could live a peaceful life without coming into direct touch with the oppressors. Thus it was in the whole world and so until quite latterly did it continue amongst the Eastern nations as well and especially in the vast land of China.

But such a situation could not and cannot continue for two reasons : firstly because coercive power through its very essence keeps continually becoming more depraved, and secondly because the subjugated people becoming more and more enlightened see with increasing clearness the evil of their submission to power. The effect of this is further increased by technical improvements in the means of communication : roads, the post, telegraph, telephones, owing to which the rulers manifest their influence in places where it could not otherwise have reached ; and the oppressed also, inter-associating ever more closely, understand clearer and clearer the disadvantages of their position.

And the disadvantages in course of time become so heavy that the subdued feel impelled to alter in some way or another their relation to authority.

The Western nations have long felt this necessity and have long since changed their attitude to power by the one means, common to all Western peoples—by the limitation of power through representatives, that is as a matter of fact by the spreading of power, by its transference from one or a few to the many.

At the present time I think that the time has arrived for the Eastern nations also and for China similarly to realise all the evil of despotic power and to search for the means of liberation from it, the present conditions of life having become unbearable.

IV.

I know that in China there exists a teaching implying that the chief ruler, "The Bogdikan", should be the wisest and most virtuous man, and that if he be not such then the subjects may and should cease to obey him. But I think that such a teaching is merely a justification of power and as unsound as the teaching of Paul circulated amongst the European nations which affirms that the powers are of God. The Chinese people cannot know whether their Emperor is wise and virtuous, just as the Christian nations could not know whether our power was granted by God to this ruler and not to that other one who fought against him.

These justifications of power could stand when the evil of power was not much felt by the people ; but now that the majority of men feel all the disadvantages and injustice of power, of the power of one or a few over many, these justifications are not effective and nations have to alter one way or another their attitude of authority. And the Western nations have long ago made this alteration : it is now the turn of the East. It is, I think, in such a position that Russia and Persia, Turkey and China now find themselves. All these nations have attained the period when they can no longer remain in their former attitude towards their rulers. As was correctly remarked by the Russian writer Gertzen, a Gengis-Khan with telegraphs and electric motors is impossible. If Gengis-Khans or men similar to them still exist in the East, it is clear

that their hour has come and that they are the last. They cannot continue to exist both because, owing to telegraphs and all that is called civilisation, their power is becoming too oppressive, and because the nations, owing to the same civilisation, feel and recognise with especial keenness that the existence or non-existence of these Gengis-Khan is for them not a matter of indifference as it used to be of old, but that almost all the calamities from which they suffer are produced precisely by this power to which they submit without any advantage to themselves, but merely by habit.

In Russia this is certainly the case. I think that the same is true also of Turkey and Persia and China.

For China this is especially true, owing to the peaceful disposition of its population and the bad organisation of its army, which gives the Europeans the possibility of robbing with impunity Chinese lands under the pretext of collisions and differences with the Chinese Government.

The Chinese people cannot but feel the necessity of changing its relation to power.

V.

And now I gather from your book and other information that some light-minded Chinese, called the party of Reform, think that this alteration should consist in following the methods of the Western nations, i.e. in substituting a representative government for a despotic one, in organising an army similar to that of Western nations and a similar organisation of industry.

This solution which at first sight appears the simplest and most natural is not only a superficial one but very silly and, according to all I know about China, it is altogether alien to the wise Chinese people. To organise such a constitution, such an army perhaps also such a conscription and such an industry as the Western nations have got would mean to renounce all that by which the Chinese people have lived and are living, to renounce their past, to renounce their rational peaceful agricultural life, that life which constitutes the true and only way of Tao not only for China but for all mankind.

Let us admit that having introduced amongst themselves European institutions the Chinese were to expel the Europeans and to have a constitution, a powerful standing army and an industrial development similar to the European.

Japan has done this, has introduced a constitution and extended the army and fleet and developed industry and the result of all these inseparably interconnected measures is already obvious. The condition of its people more and more approaches the position of the European nations and this position is extremely burdensome.

VI.

The states of Western Europe externally very powerful may now crush the Chinese army ; but the position of the people living in these states not only cannot be compared with the position of the Chinese but on the contrary it is most calamitous. Amongst all these nations there unceasingly proceeds a strife between the destitute exasperated working people and the government and wealthy, a strife which is restrained only by coercion on the part of deceived men who constitute the army ; a similar strife is continually waging between the different states demanding endlessly increasing armaments, a strife which is any moment ready to plunge into the greatest catastrophes. But however dreadful this state of things may be it does not constitute the essence of the calamity of the Western nations. Their chief and fundamental calamity is that the whole life of these nations who are unable to furnish themselves with food is entirely based on the necessity of procuring means of sustenance by violence and cunning from other nations, who like China, India, Russia and others still preserve a rational agricultural life.

And it is these parasitical nations and their activity that you are invited to imitate by the men of the Reform party !

Constitutions, protective tariffs, standing armies, all this together has rendered the Western nations what

they are—people who have abandoned agriculture and become unused to it, occupied in towns and factories in the production of articles for the most part unnecessary, people who with their armies are adapted only to every kind of violence and robbery. However brilliant their position may appear at first sight it is a desperate one and they must inevitably perish if they do not change the whole structure of their life founded as it now is on deceit and the plunder and pillage of the agricultural nations.

To imitate Western nations, being frightened by their insolence and power, would be the same as if a rational undepraved industrious man were to imitate a spendthrift insolent ruffian who has lost the habit of work and was assaulting him, i.e. in order to oppose successfully an immoral blackguard to become a similar immoral blackguard oneself.

The Chinese should not imitate the Western nations but profit by their example in order to avoid falling into the same desperate straits.

All that the Western nations are doing can and should be an example for the Eastern ones, not however an example of what they should do but of what they should not do under any consideration whatever.

VII.

To follow the way of the Western nations means to go the way of certain ruin. But also to remain in the position in which the Russians in Russia, the Persians in Persia, the Turks in Turkey, and the Chinese in China are, is also impossible. But for you, the Chinese, it is particularly obviously impossible because you, remaining with your love of peace in the position of a State without army amidst armed States, which are unable to exist independently will inevitably be subject to plunder and seizure which these States are compelled to have recourse to for their maintenance.

What then is to be done?

For us Russians I know, I most undoubtedly know what we Russians should not do and what we should do in order to free ourselves from the evils from which we are suffering and not to fall into still worse ones. We Russians first of all should not obey the existing authorities but we also should not do that which is being attempted amongst us by unenlightened people as amongst you by the party of reform—we should not imitate the West, we should not substitute one power for another and organise a constitution whether it be monarchical or republican. This for certain we should not do because it would necessarily bring us to the same calamitous position in which the Western nations are placed. But we should and can do only one thing and that the most simple: live a peaceful agricultural life bearing the acts of violence which may be perpetrated upon us without struggling against them and without participating in them. The same thing I presume and with yet stronger reasons should the Chinese do in order, not only to free yourselves from the seizures of your land and the plunder which the European nations subject you to, but also from the unreasonable demands of your Government which exacts from you actions contrary to your moral teaching and consciousness.

Only adhere to that liberty which consists in following the rational way of life, i.e. Tao, and of themselves will be abolished all the calamities which your officials cause you and your oppression and plunder by Europeans will become impossible. You will free yourselves from your officials by not fulfilling their demands, and above all by not obeying you will cease to contribute to the oppression and plunder of each other. You will free yourselves from plunder on the part of Europeans by keeping the Tao and not recognising yourselves as belonging to any State or as being responsible for the deeds committed by your Government.

All the seizures and plunder you are subject to from European nations take place only because there exists a Government of which you recognise yourselves as subjects. If there were no Chinese Government, foreign nations would have no pretext under guise of international relations to commit their atrocities. And if by refusing to obey your Government you will cease to encourage foreign powers in their acts of violence

against you, if you do not serve the Government either in private or State or military service—then there will not exist all those calamities from which you suffer.

VIII.

In order to free oneself from the evil one should not fight with its consequences: the abuses of governments, the seizures and plunders of neighbouring nations—but with the root of the evil; with the relations in which the people have placed themselves towards human authority. If the people recognise human power as higher than the power of God, higher than the law (Tao), then the people will always be slaves and the more so the more complex their organisation of power (such as a constitutional one) which they institute and to which they submit. Only those people can be free for whom the law of God (Tao) is the sole supreme law to which all others should be subordinated.

IX.

Individuals and societies are always in a transitory state from one age to another, but there are times when these transitions both for individuals and for societies are especially apparent and vividly realised. As it happens with a man who has suddenly come to feel that he can no longer continue a childish life, so also in the life of nations there come periods when societies can no longer continue to live as they did and they realise the necessity of changing their habits, their organisation and activity. And it is such a period of transition from childhood to manhood that, as it appears to me, all nations are now passing through, the Eastern as well as the Western. This transition consists in the necessity of freeing themselves from human authority which has become unbearable and of the establishment of life on foundations other than human power.

And this task is I think by historical fate predestined precisely to the Eastern nations.

The Eastern nations are placed for this purpose in especially happy conditions not having yet abandoned agriculture, not being yet deprived by military constitutional and industrial life and not having yet lost faith in the necessity of the supreme law of heaven or God, they are standing at the parting of the ways from which the European nations have long ago turned on to the false way in which liberation from human authority has become particularly difficult.* And therefore Eastern nations seeing all the calamity of the Western peoples should naturally endeavour to free themselves from the error of human authority, not by that artificial and delusive method consisting in the imaginary limitation of power and in representation, by which Western nations have endeavoured to free themselves, but should solve the problem of power by another more radical and simple plan. And this plan of itself appeals to those who have not yet lost faith in the supreme binding law of heaven or God, the law of Tao. It consists merely in the following of this law which excludes the possibility of obeying human authority.

If the Chinese people were only to continue to live, as they have formerly lived, a peaceful, industrious agricultural life, following in their conduct the principles of their three religions: Confucianism, Taoism, Buddhism, all three in their basis coinciding; Confucianism in the liberation from all human authority, Taoism in not doing to others what one does not wish done to oneself, and Buddhism—in love towards all men and all living beings—then of themselves would disappear all those calamities from which they now suffer and no powers could overcome them.

The task which according to my opinion is now pending not only for China but for all the Eastern nations does not merely consist in freeing themselves from the evils they suffer from their own governments and foreign nations, but in pointing out to all nations the issue out of the transitory position in which they all are.

And there is and can be no other issue than the liberation of oneself from human authority and submission to the divine authority.

LEO TOLSTOY.

* As to why this is so I have stated in detail in my article entitled "The Significance of the Russian Revolution."

THE NEW ENGLISH ART CLUB.

THE New English Art Club is the only exhibition in London where one is certain to find a high proportion of good work; above all, of work that is individual and interesting. The Royal Academy is one kind of shop, the New Gallery is another, but the New English is a gymnasium. Men are seen really trying to do something, in the way that is natural to them, and with their whole force. There are, of course, pictures that are eccentric without even the merit of novelty; some that are blameless and unnecessary; and, this year, there is at least one picture whose presence in such lively modern company is inexplicable, a picture called "A Magdalen". I observe with equal pleasure and surprise a picture all sunlight and Sargent which I gather from the name is done by a namesake and relation of mine who is certainly not yet twenty. It is almost too promising, but it has its right to be there. It is with surprise that I see one of the most imaginative of our artists in black and white, Mr. Muirhead Bone, represented by a merely careful and capable drawing, which has strangely enough been chosen by the National Art Collections Fund for presentation to the British Museum. One of the representative painters of the club, Mr. Rothenstein, is seen to little advantage. When will he repeat his finest success, that profoundly human picture of "Aliens at Prayer", shown last year in the Agnew Exhibition of "Independent Art", in which the quality of the paint was as clear, simple and enjoyable as the quality of the emotion? A painter who might deserve Baudelaire's definition of Constantin Guys as "*le peintre de la vie moderne*", M. Jacques Blanche, is equally little to be realised from his picture here, which has none of the suddenly and essentially interpretative quality of his last year's portrait sketch of Thomas Hardy.

A painter who has rarely done justice to himself, especially in the work he has sent to exhibitions, is Mr. Walter Sickert. No one has ever painted so brilliantly and so subtly as Mr. Sickert sees the picture which he is going to paint. Like Mallarmé, he gives you a fragment here and a fragment there, enough to prove the reality of his vision, but not enough to render it visible to the world. The little pictures of strange people which he has sent to this exhibition must be seen by artificial light to appreciate properly their search for personal expression in colour and the witty anecdotes of their attitudes.

Mr. Conder sees adorably, and can set down all that he sees when he respects the limits of his exquisite invention and of his delicate and unaccountable skill. At present he is more anxious to experiment than to achieve, and all his experiments here are not wholly successful. They are all touched with personal genius, and in the "Wood Nymph" he has come nearer to doing a nude than he has yet come. I still think, and the glimpse of two dancers in the "Souvenir d'un Ballet" is here to confirm me, that he is naturally and instinctively the painter, not of the nude, but of the décolleté.

There are three pictures and two drawings by Mr. Orpen which are among the cleverest things in the exhibition. How is it that, in spite of their cleverness, their outer sincerity, they leave us uninterested? There is a nude painted with extraordinary fidelity, a woman who sprawls on a bed; and her flesh is painted so that you might take it for real flesh; and yet there is no illusion, she remains unvitalised, academic. The work is painstaking and able, it follows truth for its own sake, yet offers truth a sort of platonic homage, not wrestling with and overcoming truth. Mr. John is not cleverer in the hand than Mr. Orpen, but look at the one beside the other! Here, indeed, Mr. John is not to be seen at his best; but take the little sketch called "In the Tent", and see how much significance there is in its for once quiet statement of things. There you see a man painting to please himself, and though Mr. Orpen may very likely also paint to please himself, the result is work which can only please the public. His representation of actual things, so careful and effective, goes no further than the observation of a practised eye can direct the working of a skilful hand. With

Mr. John there is a faithfulness to something more than the form of things, to the life and essential spirit of form. Look at his drawings and look across at Mr. Orpen's. It is Bohemia against Bloomsbury, sharp elbows and pointed shoulder-blades and rags against the finest baby-linen and the sleepest fatness; but the children whom Mr. John has set down as if he hated them have come to life under his pencil and the children whom Mr. Orpen has set down gently and cautiously will never wake up out of their sleep.

When we can say of a man's work that it is alive, what may we not hope for in it? Being alive, it has only to grow. But neither here nor in the exhibition of the Society of Twelve does Mr. John show any sign of growth. Growth, it must be remembered, is not merely a blind force of nature, but owes its strength and direction partly to care and forethought. Will this remarkable draughtsman turn into a great painter? He has it in his own hands, but strong hands are spendthrift, and Mr. John seems at present anxious rather to scatter than to build.

There is as much vigour of a certain kind in Mr. Steer as in Mr. John, and a far greater mastery of paint. But why is it that Mr. John paints a sullen woman in a gipsy tent and makes you want to have the picture always on your walls, while Mr. Steer paints a school girl with a far more complete kind of pictorial success and leaves you indifferent to her? The English school girl has presented Mr. Steer with a subject absolutely "made to his hand", and, within the limits which that subject set to his intelligence, he has succeeded perfectly. It is indeed the first time that he has painted a face with as much apparent interest as he takes in a dress or in furniture. One sees a masterly capacity to do a given thing, and the thing is done. Why would we rather have Mr. John's suggestion than Mr. Steer's assertion?

Again, Mr. Steer has a landscape which is technically by far the finest landscape in the room. It is a fine, solid, brilliant piece of work, with a serious sky and with water that is an almost deceptive image of water. It stands there and challenges denial, and it is not to be denied. Yet it is without greatness, it is without something which is the root of greatness. Look across from it to a small and too rashly coloured landscape by Mr. John, a moor with a gipsy van, and you will see in it something which is not in Mr. Steer's landscape. That something I would define in a phrase of Browning: "the moment eternal". Mr. John snatches the eternal moment and throws it away; but Mr. Steer's average moment will never become eternal.

ARTHUR SYMONS.

SEEING PEOPLE OFF.

ARE you good at it? I am not. To do it well seems to me one of the most difficult things in the world, and probably seems so to you, too.

It were easy enough to see a friend off from Waterloo to Vauxhall. But we are never called on to perform that small feat. It is only when a friend is going on a longish journey, and will be absent for a longish time, that we turn up at the railway station. The dearer the friend, and the longer the journey, and the longer the likely absence, the earlier do we turn up, and the more lamentably do we fail. Our failure is in exact ratio to the seriousness of the occasion, and to the depth of our feeling.

In a room, or even on a doorstep, we can make the farewell quite worthily. We can express in our faces the genuine sorrow we feel. Nor do words fail us. There is no awkwardness, no restraint, on either side. The thread of our intimacy has not been snapped. The leave-taking is an ideal one. Why not, then, leave the leave-taking at that? Always, departing friends implore us not to bother to come to the railway station next morning. Always, we are deaf to these entreaties, knowing them to be not quite sincere. The departing friends would think it very odd of us if we took them at their word. Besides, they really do want to see us again. And that wish is heartily reciprocated. We duly turn up.

And then, oh then, what a gulf yawns! We stretch

our arms vainly across it. We have utterly lost touch. We have nothing at all to say. We gaze at each other as dumb animals gaze at human beings. We "make conversation"—and *such* conversation! We know that these are the friends from whom we parted overnight. They know that we have not altered. Yet, on the surface, everything is different; and the tension is such that we only long for the guard to blow his whistle and put an end to the farce.

On a cold grey morning last week I duly turned up at Euston, to see off an old friend who was starting for America.

Overnight, we had given him a farewell dinner, in which sadness was well mingled with festivity. Years, probably, would elapse before his return. Some of us might never see him again. Not ignoring the shadow of the future, we gaily celebrated the past. We were as thankful to have known our guest as we were grieved to lose him; and both these emotions were made evident. It was a perfect farewell.

And now, here we were, stiff and self-conscious on the platform; and, framed in the window of the railway-carriage, was the face of our friend; but it was as the face of a stranger—a stranger anxious to please, an appealing stranger, an awkward stranger. "Have you got everything?" asked one of us, breaking a silence. "Yes, everything", said our friend, with a pleasant nod. "Everything", he repeated, with the emphasis of an empty brain. "You'll be able to lunch on the train", said I, though this prophecy had already been made more than once. "Oh yes", he said with conviction. He added that the train went straight through to Liverpool. This fact seemed to strike us as rather odd. We exchanged glances. "Doesn't it stop at Crewe?" asked one of us. "No", said our friend, briefly. He seemed almost disagreeable. There was a long pause. One of us, with a nod and a forced smile at the traveller, said "Well!" The nod, the smile, and the unmeaning monosyllable, were returned conscientiously. Another pause was broken by one of us with a fit of coughing. It was an obviously assumed fit, but it served to pass the time. The bustle of the platform was unabated. There was no sign of the train's departure. Release—ours, and our friend's—was not yet.

My wandering eye alighted on a rather portly middle-aged man who was talking earnestly from the platform to a young lady at the next window but one to ours. His fine profile was vaguely familiar to me. The young lady was evidently American, and he was evidently English; otherwise I should have guessed from his impressive air that he was her father. I wished I could hear what he was saying. I was sure he was giving the very best advice; and the strong tenderness of his gaze was really beautiful. He seemed magnetic, as he poured out his final injunctions. I could feel something of his magnetism even where I stood. And the magnetism, like the profile, was vaguely familiar to me. Where had I experienced it?

In a flash I remembered. The man was Hubert Le Ros. But how changed since last I saw him! That was seven or eight years ago, in the Strand. He was then (as usual) out of an engagement, and borrowed half a crown. It seemed a privilege to lend anything to him. He was always magnetic. And why his magnetism had never made him successful on the London stage was always a mystery to me. He was an excellent actor, and a man of sober habit. But, like many others of his kind, Hubert Le Ros (I do not, of course, give the actual name by which he was known) drifted seedily away into the provinces; and I, like everyone else, ceased to remember him.

It was strange to see him, after all these years, here on the platform of Euston, looking so prosperous and solid. It was not only the flesh that he had put on, but also the clothes, that made him hard to recognise. In the old days, an imitation fur coat had seemed to be as integral a part of him as were his ill-shorn lantern jaws. But now his costume was a model of rich and sombre moderation, drawing, not calling, attention to itself. He looked like a banker. Anyone would have been proud to be seen off by him.

"Stand back, please!" The train was about to start, and I waved farewell to my friend. Le Ros

did not stand back. He stood clasping in both hands the hands of the young American. "Stand back, sir, please!" He obeyed, but quickly darted forward again, to whisper some final word. I think there were tears in her eyes. There certainly were tears in his when, at length, having watched the train out of sight, he turned round. He seemed, nevertheless, delighted to see me. He asked me where I had been hiding all these years; and simultaneously repaid me the half-crown as though it had been borrowed yesterday. He linked his arm in mine, and walked me slowly along the platform, saying with what pleasure he read me every Saturday.

I told him, in return, how much he was missed on the stage. "Ah, yes", he said, "I never act on the stage nowadays". He laid some emphasis on the word "stage", and I asked him where, then, he did act. "On the platform", he answered. "You mean", said I, "that you recite at concerts?" He smiled. "This", he whispered, striking his stick on the ground, "is the platform I mean". Had his mysterious prosperity unhinged him? He looked quite sane. I begged him to be more explicit.

"I suppose", he said presently, giving me a light for the cigar which he had offered me, "you have been seeing a friend off?" I assented. He asked me what I supposed *he* had been doing. I said that I had watched him doing the same thing. "No", he said gravely. "That lady was not a friend of mine. I met her for the first time this morning, less than half an hour ago, here", and again he struck the platform with his stick. I confessed that I was bewildered. He smiled. "You may", he said, "have heard of the Anglo-American Social Bureau?" I had not. He explained to me that of the thousands of Americans who annually pass through England there are many hundreds who have no English friends. In the old days they used to bring letters of introduction. But the English are so inhospitable that these letters are hardly worth the paper they are written on. "Thus", said Le Ros, "the A-A. S. B. supplies a long-felt want. Americans are a sociable people, and most of them have plenty of money to spend. The A-A. S. B. supplies them with English friends. Fifty per cent. of the fees is paid over to the friends. The other fifty is retained by the A-A. S. B. I am not, alas, a director. If I were I should be a very rich man indeed. I am only an employé. But even so I do very well. I am one of the seers-off". Again I asked for enlightenment. "Many Americans", he said, "cannot afford to keep friends in England. But they can all afford to be seen off. The fee is only five pounds (twenty-five dollars) for a single traveller; and eight pounds (forty dollars) for a party of two or more. They send that in to the Bureau, giving the date of their departure, and a description by which the seer-off can identify them on the platform. And then—well, then they are seen off". "But is it worth it?" I exclaimed. "Of course it is worth it", said Le Ros. "It prevents them from feeling 'out of it'. It earns them the respect of the guard. It saves them from being despised by their fellow-passengers. Besides, it is a great pleasure in itself. You saw me seeing that young lady off. Didn't you think I did it beautifully?" "Beautifully", I admitted. "I envied you. There was I—" "Yes, I can imagine. There were you, shuffling from foot to foot, staring blankly at your friend, trying to make conversation. I know. That's how I used to be myself, before I studied, and went into the thing professionally. I don't say I'm perfect yet. I'm still a martyr to platform fright. A railway-station is the most difficult of all places to act in, as you have discovered for yourself." "But", I said with some resentment, "I wasn't trying to act. I really *felt*". "So did I, my boy", said Le Ros. "You can't act without feeling. What's-his-name the Frenchman—Diderot, yes—said you could; but what did *he* know about it? Didn't you see those tears in my eyes when the train started? I hadn't forced them. I tell you I was *moved*. So were you, I dare say. But you couldn't have pumped up a tear to prove it. You can't express your feelings. In other words, you can't act. At any rate", he added kindly, "not in a railway station". "Teach me!" I

cried. He looked thoughtfully at me. "Well", he said at length, "the seeing-off season is practically over. Yes, I'll give you a course. I have a good many pupils on hand already; but yes", he said consulting a note-book, "I could give you an hour on Tuesdays and Fridays".

His terms, I confess, are rather high. But I don't grudge the investment. MAX BEERBOHM.

ANIMAL AUTOBIOGRAPHIES.

A FEW months ago the American naturalist, John Burroughs, who is almost as well known and highly esteemed in England as at home, published his "Ways of Nature", a little book which he might have entitled "a discourse on anthropomorphism, or the ascription of a human mind to the lower animals; being an examination of the recent writings of certain American naturalists, so-called, with an exposition of the falseness of their teachings". This kind of title is now regarded as cumbersome, and has become obsolete, but it has one advantage over the short, sharp and striking titles in vogue at present when titles are made to hit us like bullets as we run, since it tells you what the book you are asked to read is about. "Ways of Nature" is a very general title, and as it covers pretty well everything in this visible world, it leaves a good deal to the imagination; and one who knows and loves Burroughs buys it in the hope, or rather the confident expectation, of getting a new "Wake Robin", or a "Pepacton", or a "Fresh Fields", a book dear to English readers, or a "Locusts and Wild Honey". He is disappointed at finding it not an open-air book at all, but one written in a library—an angry preaching against the "growing tendency to humanise the lower animals".

It seemed to me, when reading it, that no such protest or counterblast was needed on this side the Atlantic, where the books of the new school of naturalists, variously called the humanising, the romantic, the sentimental and the picturesque school, are taken for just what they are. They are not taken as serious natural history and consequently have not corrupted our understandings, an effect which Mr. Burroughs believes they are having on the more excitable minds of Americans. To our sober minds these works are romances of the woods and wilds—tales of romantic adventures in which the characters are foxes, rabbits, wild geese, and birds and beasts of many kinds, and very entertaining we find them, particularly those by the Canadian writer, Mr. Charles Roberts, illustrated by Charles Livingston Bull, a delightful artist. I only wish we had one like him in this country. Nor are we in England without books (and many of them) of this kind; nor can it be said that the impulse to write them first came from America. They were not uncommon in this country before ever Mr. Ernest Thompson Seton (who, by the way, is an Englishman) began to put forth his little comedies and tragedies of animal life in the Wild West, and many persons know and admire Mr. Fortescue's delightful life of a wild red deer on Exmoor. I remember that about eighteen years ago I knew a little boy whose favourite book and most treasured possession was an autobiography, well written and well illustrated, of a rough-haired English terrier. So dear was this book to him that he insisted on taking it to bed with him every night and invariably went to sleep with it under his pillow, with one hand holding or resting on it. A "pillow book" indeed! Probably Mr. Fortescue read some such work in his early years—the memoirs of a dog, or cat, or horse—and, when he himself took up the pen, conceived the happy idea of embodying his own intimate knowledge of the red deer and his feeling for the wild scenery of his native place in a narrative of this kind. It is not improbable that the American naturalists of the "romantic" school took their inspiration from this Exmoor book. Certainly this kind of natural history has caught on and become extraordinarily popular in that land, and, it must be confessed, it is better done than with us. We may see this in two recent books on an animal of the same species, published in the two countries—"Red Fox" by

Charles Roberts in America, and "The Life of a Fox", by the author of "Wild Life at the Land's End", in England.*

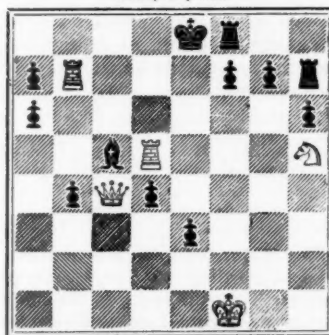
Mr. Roberts writes a much better style and has more invention and is more restrained; he does not read his own mind so fully into that of his four-footed people. Nevertheless, the life story of our native fox is a delightful book, perhaps the best of its kind produced in England. Mr. Tregarthen was well equipped for his task: he knows his subject intimately; he is an enthusiast, and, albeit a sportsman, is a bit of a sentimentalist. The interest never flags in the story of the life and manifold adventures of the hero, a fine dog fox, from the cradle, among the rocks of a Cornish headland, to, not the grave, but the conclusion of the last glorious deed when at the end of a long chase he escapes from the pack by taking a fearful leap over a chasm in the granite cliffs and landing safely on a ledge on the further side. There we leave him, in full view of the raging baffled hounds, exhausted and bedraggled, but uninjured still, in the middle of his wily vigorous life, with perhaps many years to live yet, and many a long chase to come in future hunting seasons.

W. H. HUDSON.

CHESS.

PROBLEM 103. By H. SMUTNY (Pribram).

Black, 12 pieces.



White, 5 pieces.

White mates in two moves.

PROBLEM 104. By M. HAVEL (Prague).—White: (8 pieces). K-Q7, Q-KKt2, Kts on Q4 and Q5, Ps on KB2, QB2, QKt3, QKt4. Black: (8 pieces). K-K4, Q-QKt7, R-K7, B-Q8, Ps on KR4, K6, QKt4, QR3.

Solutions to above will be duly acknowledged.

KEY TO PROBLEM 101: Q-R5.
" " 102: P-K4.

The following great game, one of the finest examples of Dr. Tarrasch's skill extant, occurred in the S. Petersburg match in 1893. The honours, somewhat to the surprise of the chess fraternity, were divided at nine games each, with four draws. Tchigorin, who revels in eccentricity, persisted throughout the match in his bizarre method of meeting the close game, and was rewarded by some superlative victories during the closing stages of the contest. More especially is the game notable for the subtle manoeuvres of black's bishops, who continually shift their positions from wing to wing, bearing on and accentuating all white's weak points or "holes" as they are usually termed. This was the sixth game of the match.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

White	Black	White	Black
Tchigorin	Tarrasch	Tchigorin	Tarrasch
1. P-K4	P-K3	2. Q-K2	...

A move at one time favoured by the late Mr. Pollock. It gives scope for original mid-game play, but is too cramping for the normally constituted player. White

* "The Life Story of a Fox." By J. C. Tregarthen. London: A. and C. Black. 1906. 6s.

tried it with average success in conjunction both with the king and queen's fianchetto.

2.	P-QB4	6. Kt-QB3	B-B3
3. P-KKt3	Kt-QB3	7. Kt-Kt5	Kt x Kt
4. B-Kt2	Kt-Q5	8. Q x Kt	Q-Kt3 !
5. Q-Q3	B-K2	9. Q-K2	. . .

We need hardly say white gains nothing by exchanging queens and opening a black file. Tchigorin is not a man to be satisfied with drawing possibilities. His motto is always "aut Cæsar aut nihil", nor, we may be sure, would the doctor in this position speak with his enemy in the gate.

9.	P-Q3	14. Castles	P-R3
10. Kt-B3	B-Q2	15. B-K3	Q-Kt3
11. P-B3	B-QKt4	16. QR-Kt1	P-QR4 !
12. P-Q3	Q-R3 !	17. P-QR3	P-R5 !
13. P-B4	B-B3		

White now has an additional weak spot, which tells later against him.

18. KR-Q1	P-K4	28. Q-K1	P-R4
19. Kt-Q2	Kt-K2	29. B-Q1	Q-K3
20. Kt-B1	B-Q2	30. P-B3	B-Q1
21. B-Q2	Kt-B3	31. Q-B2	P-R5
22. B-QB3	Kt-Q5	32. Q-Kt2	R-KR3
23. B x Kt	HP x B	33. P-KKt4	B-KKt4
24. B-B3	Q-B2	34. P-R3	K-B1
25. B-Kt4	B-B3	35. Q-K2	K-Kt1
26. KR-B1	B-KKt4	36. Q-K1	. . .
27. R-B2	Q-K2 !		

Black now fairly holds his opponent in chancery. White resembles a caged tiger, darting hither and thither to find an outlet. It would be ungenerous to laugh at a noble opponent, but his position is almost ludicrous. A scientific game of draughts often ends like this, where the loser finds himself slowly drawn or sucked into a quicksand.

36.	P-KKt3	43. BP x P	KR-B2
37. R-Kt2	R-KR2	44. Q-Q1	P-Kt4 !
38. B-B2	R-Kt2	45. P x P	B x KtP
39. Q-Q1	Q-Q2	46. Kt-R2	B-K6ch
40. Q-K1	P-R4 !	47. K-R1	P-Kt4 !
41. B-Q1	R-KB1	48. Kt-B1	P-Q4 ! !
42. B-K2	P x KP		

The crowning point of black's patient strategy. Tchigorin, who, according to Steinitz, is perhaps the most skilful player living as regards the handling of his rooks, can never penetrate black's lines, and is surely and mercilessly starved into capitulation.

49. Kt-Q2	B-B3	55. B-B1	B x R
50. P x P	B x P	56. B x B	R-B7
51. Kt-K4	Q-B3	57. Q-R1	P-K5 !
52. R-R1	R-B3	58. Q-QKt1	Q-Q3ch
53. K-R2	R x Kt !	59. K-R1	R x B ?
54. P x R	B x P		Resigns

BRIDGE.

BY a rather curious coincidence, the very next day after writing last week's article on the subject of leading a trump at once in answer to a double, we came across a hand in actual play which strongly bore out our view of the situation. The four hands, as dealt, were :—

Hearts—King, knave, 10, 5, 4.
Diamonds—Ace, 6, 5.
Clubs—Queen, knave, 7.
Spades—10, 5.

Hearts—9, 2.
Diamonds—King, 8,
7, 4.
Clubs—8.
Spades—Queen, knave,
9, 8, 3, 2.

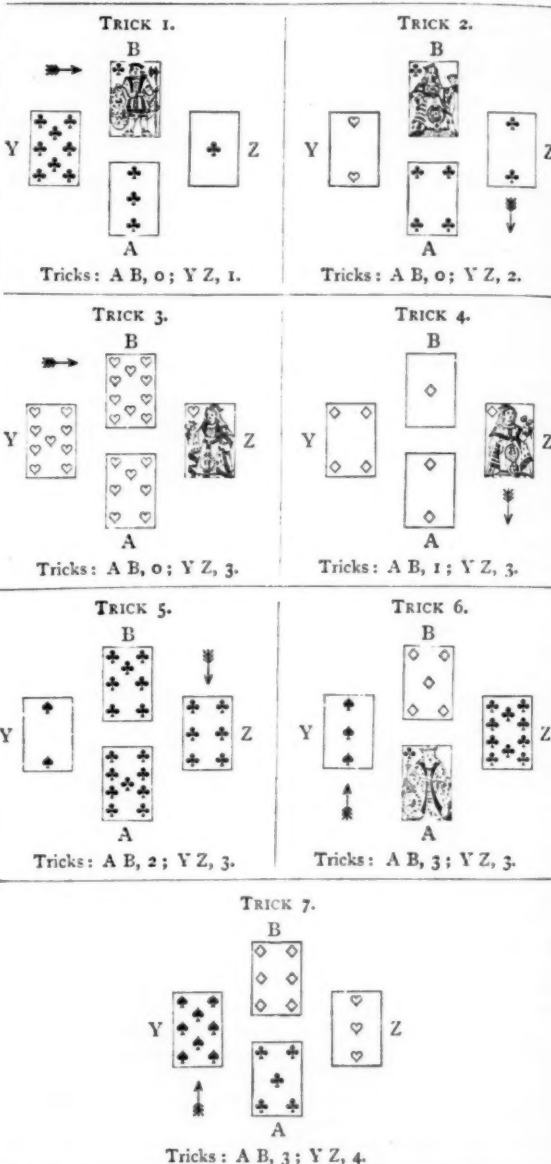
B
(dummy)
Y Z
(dealer)
A

Hearts—Ace, queen,
8, 6, 3.
Diamonds—Queen,
knave, 10.
Clubs—Ace, 10, 6, 2.
Spades—4.

Hearts—7.
Diamonds—9, 3, 2.
Clubs—King, 9, 5, 4, 3.
Spades—Ace, king, 7, 6.

The score was A B love, Y Z a game and 18. A dealt and left it to B, who declared hearts. Z doubled, and his partner (Y), having a single club and two little trumps, elected to lead the singleton in the hope of getting a ruff. He got his ruff all right, but by so doing he failed to win the game, and he and his partner eventually lost the rubber. If Y had played what we contend to be the right game, and had led his highest trump at once in answer to his partner's double, without

thinking about his own hand at all, nothing could have prevented Y Z from winning the odd trick, and thereby the game and rubber. As it was, the hand was played as follows :—



After this Z could only make two more trumps, and A B won the odd trick and saved the game. If Y had led the 9 of trumps to start with, as we contend that he ought to have done, Z would have cleared the diamond suit, and nothing could have prevented his winning two tricks in diamonds, which, with the ace of clubs and four tricks in trumps, would have given Y Z the odd trick and the game. Moreover, unless B led a second round of trumps directly he got in, Y would still have made his ruff in clubs. As it was, B was able to discard his two 'losing' diamonds, and Y Z never made a trick in diamonds at all, owing to Y's anxiety to get in his ruff.

We verily believe that it gives some players more pleasure to make one trick by ruffing than to make three by playing boldly for a big game. It must be noted that Y Z would have won the game if Y had never led a trump at all, but we have given the hand exactly as it was played.

Rather an interesting question of a declaration occurred last week at Almack's. The dealer was a game and two to love. The declaration was left to dummy, whose hand was :—

Hearts—7, 4.
Diamonds—
Clubs—Ace, king, queen, 9, 8, 7, 5, 4, 2.
Spades—Ace, 5.

The player of dummy was a man of considerable experience in bridge, and he argued to himself that, although this was a possible No Trump call, it would be very risky, and, his side being well ahead, it did not seem an occasion for great risks. With clubs as trumps there was an absolute certainty of ten tricks, and if his partner had three tricks it would be grand slam and game. If his partner had not got three tricks, the No Trump would be very likely to prove disastrous, and therefore, quite rightly, he declared clubs.

When the hand was put down his partner took great exception to the declaration, saying that it was a most undoubted No Trump call. As a matter of fact, the dealer had five diamonds, headed by the knave, 9, the ace of hearts, and the king, knave of spades, so that the game would easily have been won at No Trumps; but let us look at the actual result of the hand. If No Trumps had been declared, diamonds would have been opened, the ace, king, and queen would have made, and the dealer would have won the rest, scoring forty-eight for tricks and thirty for honours—seventy-eight in all. As it was, the dealer won the grand slam in clubs, scoring twenty-eight below the line and fifty-six above (he had the 10 of clubs himself), amounting to eighty-four, so that he actually scored more points by the club declaration, without running any risk at all.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WHISKY AND INSANITY.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Gawenhurst, Southchurch Beach, Essex,
14 November, 1906.

SIR,—Will you permit me to show from the annual reports of the Lunacy Commissioners that the so-called increase of insanity is far more apparent than real; that the building of Aladdin's palaces for harmless lunatics, poor old paupers suffering from senile decay, has been the pretext for our "progressive" and socialist friends involving the ratepayers in a huge and a totally unnecessary expenditure?

In the sixtieth report we find the commissioners saying: "*the Pauper* [the italics are the commissioners'] patients on the first of January 1906 numbered 111,256 and constituted 91·2 per cent. of *all* the 'certified insane'." This language is clear and admits of no equivocation. Of all the certified insane at this period 91·2 per cent. were "paupers". Dealing with the causes of insanity on p. 12 the commissioners say: "... it is manifest that the class of cases known as 'senile-dementia' depend on the natural decay of cerebral functions with advancing years, so that 'old age' has come to be a recognised 'cause' of insanity, whereas the patient has only passed into a period of life (often prematurely) where mind as well as body are decaying."

Here we have again a statement clothed in language so clear that it is impossible for anyone with a modicum of intelligence to misunderstand the meaning of the commissioners.

I affirm fearlessly that senile decay is not insanity, and that those persons suffering from this condition of mind are simply imbeciles, and should be so classed and treated. Therefore, to erect for these unhappy people gorgeous palaces replete with every possible extravagance, including pathological departments and research (vide the "Hospital", 23 June, 1906), is unscientific, cruel to the old paupers, and needlessly wasteful for the ratepayers. The Essex County Council are about to erect an Aladdin's palace at a cost of nearly £500,000, which comes out at nearly £220 per bed! This county council is signalled out for some very severe strictures from the Commissioners in the Fifty-ninth Report. After what the members may read on p. 64, it is somewhat remarkable we find them creating needlessly this terrible burden of debt for the unfortunate ratepayers of Essex to bear. Man's inhumanity to man was never better exemplified than in the following, taken from the Fifty-ninth Report, p. 65:—

"Proportion per cent. of insane paupers, aged

seventy and upwards, admitted from workhouses in 1903-1994, who died within:

	One week	One month	Six months	One year
All asylums (1,455 admissions) ...	2·5	12·0	34·5	45·7
Essex and West Ham (239 admissions) ...	3·3	16·3	42·6	56·4
London Asylum (310 admissions) ...	0·6	4·2	19·6	27·7
Surrey, Sussex and Kent (145 admissions) ...	2·7	12·4	35·8	47·5
Lancashire and Yorkshire (135 admissions) ...	3·7	10·3	31·1	37·0

"Of the total number", say the commissioners, "1,455, it will be seen that 666 or 45·7 per cent. died within one year of their admission; 502 or 34·5 per cent. within six months; 175 or 12 per cent. within one month; and 37 or 2·5 per cent. within one week!"

It seems incredible, Sir, that so much inhumanity should have survived to the present day in the treatment of "insanity", but the figures and the language are the commissioners'. Now let us turn to p. 63 same report: "We have frequently drawn attention to the fact that the number of senile persons admitted into asylums is disproportionately on the increase. *The fact is patent to us when visiting the asylums.*"

On p. 66 the commissioners plead with the guardians in the following eloquent terms: "We feel bound to express the opinion that it is incumbent on the guardians, especially of the more populous unions, to provide special care and accommodation in the workhouses for inmates *whose mental derangement is mainly due to the advance of years*, so as to obviate the necessity for sending them away from their accustomed abode", and on p. 63, "without having resort to a measure which uproots them from their old associations", thus bringing about their early demise plus the stigma of "insanity".

On p. 67 the commissioners say: "It will be observed that this inquiry is limited to the pauper insane in workhouses, and does not deal with those removed to asylums direct from their homes, who number approximately *twice as many as the former in the age-periods here dealt with.*"

Now, Sir, it is as clear as daylight that a preponderating proportion of "the insane" in our midst is composed of poor old imbecile people, whose years range from seventy to one hundred, and who either ought never to have left the workhouse or the seclusion of their children's homes!

Other quotations might be given in support of my argument that insanity per se is not increasing beyond what the natural increase of population would lead us to expect. It is, however, a fact, and a very sad one too, that the consumption of new whisky, fresh from the still, in breaking down the brain cells, is the cause of nearly 50 per cent. of insanity amongst young and middle-aged people. For the sake of revenue the Government permit the sale of this pernicious poison, leaving to the unfortunate ratepayers of the kingdom the burden of the cost of the result of their iniquity.

May I conclude my letter by commending the lines of Wordsworth to the earnest consideration of asylum committees in general and to that of the County Council of Essex in particular?

"But an old age serene and bright,
And lovely as a Lapland night,
Shall lead thee to the grave."

Hoping the nation, through Parliament, will soon be awakened to a sense of its duty to its old-aged citizens, helping them to realise Wordsworth's beautiful and humane aspiration,

I am, Sir, yours sincerely,
H. R. GAWEN GOGAY.

TEACHERS AND TRAINING COLLEGES.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

King's College, Cambridge,
24 November, 1906.

SIR,—In reference to the letter of Mr. Wych, published in your issue of to-day, may I ask him to say what authority he has for his statement that elementary teachers trained in Training Colleges pay no attention to the declaration which they have signed on entering those colleges? As one who has been Principal of a Training College for more than fifteen years I can confidently assert that this statement is entirely contrary

to the facts and without the slightest shadow of foundation, so far as my knowledge extends.

Believe me, yours faithfully, OSCAR BROWNING,
Principal of the Cambridge University
Day Training College.

THE MERCHANT SHIPPING BILL.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—In the "Census of Production Bill" with which you dealt very fully in your article on the "Industrial Census" in your issue of 17 November, you rightly pointed out that, so far as could be ascertained from the terms of the Bill, the information which it enabled the Board of Trade to obtain would be insufficient to give a complete measure of the aggregate trade of the country. Among the omissions was the earnings of the shipping industry, and it appears to me somewhat strange that Mr. Lloyd-George should have introduced, almost surreptitiously as it were, into the Merchant Shipping Bill, on the Report stage of that Bill, a clause of which only a few hours' notice was given and which was incorporated without any discussion. In principle again no one could object to the inclusion of shipping earnings with the earnings of all other British industries, but seeing that the clause requires from the managing owner of every ship registered in the United Kingdom information showing only the aggregate gross earnings during any year, it is obvious to anyone interested in the shipping industry that there lurks in the information which will thus be obtained materials for endless fallacious arguments of the type we have grown accustomed to from the oratory of the President of the Board of Trade. It ought not to be impossible for the House of Lords to amend this clause in Committee so that returns which will be obtained under it will satisfactorily supplement the information which may one day be obtained from the "Census of Production Bill".

I am, yours faithfully, S. R.

THE CLAIM TO THE EARLDOM OF NORFOLK.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Brighton, 28 November, 1906.

SIR,—It is interesting to look back into that portion of history affecting Lord Mowbray's claim to the Earldom of Norfolk which has just been decided in favour of Roger de Bygod's heirs and the present Duke. Thomas de Brotherton, from whom as senior co-heir to his descendants, Lord Mowbray claimed the Earldom of Norfolk, was an elder son of Edward I. by his second Queen, Margaret, daughter of Philip "le Hardi", one of France's kings.

Thomas' patronymic was Plantagenet, but he was surnamed De Brotherton from the place of his birth, and created Earl of Norfolk by his half-brother Edward II. But Thomas outlived him and left co-heiresses Margaret and Isabel. It was Margaret's daughter who first connected the illustrious family of Mowbray with the Crown by her union with John, Lord Mowbray, and was grandmother of Margaret de Mowbray, wife of Sir Robert Howard Kt., the father of the first Duke of Norfolk, who was the celebrated Yorkist that fell at the battle of Bosworth and died by Richard III.'s side (1485) and had a distich written on his gate the night before by friends. The Plantagenets derive their name from a Spanish plant, a sprig of which the second Henry's father wore in his hat on almost all occasions.

B. R. THORNTON.

"THE DOCTOR'S DILEMMA."

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—It is amusing to see the obstinacy with which one and all refuse to acknowledge Mr. Shaw as a revolutionist: his outspoken creed is merely neglected or laughed at as something which of course he never meant to be taken seriously: just because the man has too much humour and too much art to thunder dogmatically without light relief and without showing other points of view!

"The Doctor's Dilemma" and the criticisms which followed it are excellent examples. No critic has gone

to the root of the matter and attempted to explain the motive of the play. The "Times" review actually suggests the slandering of doctors! Mr. Max Beerbohm avoids the subject as carefully as possible, and when he does come to the point we get "Mr. Shaw's disgust for the unmoral artist has prevented him, despite his constant efforts at fairness, from presenting this figure worthily"—a statement for which the play gives no warrant whatever.

Can Mr. Max Beerbohm have listened to the epilogue, or was his attention too much taken up with criticising the scenery?

The epilogue, if the critics did not wilfully blind themselves to the real issue of the play, should have been quite sufficient. The scene has little or no artistic value—we had already realised Mrs. Dubedat's infatuation and that is all it treats of as far as the characters of the play are concerned; its motive is quite clearly to allow the author an opportunity of giving his criticism on what has happened.

And what is that criticism? Clearly that the life of a true genius, even of one without our particular standard of morals, is worth infinitely more than that of a humdrum commonplace doctor. The artist genius, whom Mr. Max Beerbohm stigmatises, borrows money he never intends to repay—a hideous crime as our society is based now—pretends to marry a woman whose husband has deserted her, and deceives his wife because his opinions would shock her. That is the charge. To counterbalance this, we find him an artist with real genius who can give pleasure to thousands, a thinker, as Mr. Shaw believes, in advance of his age, a tender, if not exactly a devoted husband, and one who is capable of inspiring a love which lasts beyond the grave and which even induces his widow to act contrary to all her social instincts (or at least ours) and marry again within three months of his death. (We may fairly object to this as a cruel thing to have asked her to do, but the action shows the inspiration, and that is all the author proposed.)

However it is not my business or my intention to criticise the play, I merely ask that the author's views should be given a fair hearing and not masked under a mass of irrelevancies which prevent our forming any idea of what he intended.

I am, yours faithfully, X. Y. Z.

AN APOLOGY.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

London, S.W., 28 November.

SIR,—I greatly regret having overlooked an unfortunate error in my article last week. It contained the following sentence: "But I sincerely hope that the day is not far distant when Gérardy, tired of his excesses and his wanderings, will settle down permanently in some musical centre", &c. The word "excesses" should, of course, have read "successes" and I take this opportunity of apologising to M. Jean Gérardy for any moral inconvenience he may have suffered on account of the misprint.

I am, yours obediently, HAROLD E. GORST.

THE REVOKE.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

24 November, 1906.

SIR,—Will Colonel the Hon. Hubert V. Duncombe please accept my thanks for the extremely courteous reply with which he has honoured my letter? May I suggest, however, that to the question raised in that letter his irrelevances afford no answer.

Law 72 limits to three the number of tricks which may be taken from the player who has revoked, and the penalty defined in that law is afterwards referred to as "the penalty". Law 82, as generally interpreted, permits the adversaries to deprive the revoking player of so many tricks as will prevent him from raising his score beyond four. The lack of harmony between these laws should be obvious even to the military intelligence.

Will any reader of the SATURDAY REVIEW help me out of a difficulty from which, if it be of my own creation, I am genuinely anxious to be delivered?

Yours sincerely, CARDS.

REVIEWS.

A SCHOLARLY ITALIAN STUDY.

"The King of Court Poets: a Study of the Work, Life, and Times of Ludovico Ariosto." By Edmund G. Gardner. London: Constable. 1906. 16s. net.

ALL Mr. Gardner's work has one excellent quality—that of serviceableness. His Dante Primer, his all-round guide to Florence, his story of Siena, have been of incalculable service to the thousands of fortunate English-speaking people who flock to Italy for love of Dante and Florence and Siena, and to the hundreds of thousands of less fortunate English and Americans who have to be content with studying these fascinating subjects by their own firesides. It is easy enough, we know, to get information in English about Dante and Florence and Siena, not easy though to find it set forth with such order and method, such lucidity and impartiality, as in the pages of Mr. Gardner's works. But in the series of books which he initiated in "Dukes and Poets of Ferrara" and has followed up by "The King of Court Poets" Mr. Gardner places English-speaking people under a greater debt of obligation, inasmuch as it is not easy for those among them who do not know Italian—the vast majority that is—to obtain a rational, vivid and full history of the ever-memorable House of Este. To the former book we have already given a full meed of praise (*SATURDAY REVIEW*, 24 September, 1904): of that under review we can only say that it is an advance upon the first. It is with a very sure hand, with all the sobriety of a scholar, albeit not untinged with the agreeable glow of an admirer, that Mr. Gardner writes of Alfonso I. (1476-1534), third Duke of Ferrara and Modena, and Ludovico Ariosto (1474-1533), here happily styled the King of Court Poets. He has admirably analysed for us the "Orlando Furioso", Ariosto's minor poems, and his comedies (we must again reiterate our eulogium of two years ago on the excellences of Mr. Gardner's prose renderings of Italian verse); he has presented to us in flesh and blood Ariosto, the man, the courtier, the commissary, the diplomatist, the stage-manager, the poet, the distracted lover. Interesting is it to note Ariosto's practical protest against the phonetisation of the Tuscan tongue which was creeping into it in his day and has now done so much to deform it. "He who takes the h from 'huomo'", he would say, 'is inhuman; and he who mutilates "honore" deserves no honour; if Hercole saw his name thus robbed, he would take vengeance upon the thief with his club', &c." Mr. Gardner need not apologise for venturing "upon the extreme conservatism of adhering to the poet's own orthography": we catch a glimpse of the poet's temperament, nay of his very soul, in this refusal to cover up the origins of his musical tongue. We cannot help regretting that Mr. Gardner, with his great knowledge of Italian, should not have made his book still more serviceable to English readers by attempting some estimate of Ariosto's English translators, Sir John Harington, Temple Henry Croker, William Huggins, John Hoole, and William Stewart Rose. Hoole's translation in particular was at one time such a favourite, and undoubtedly did so much to diffuse among us a knowledge of Ariosto's great romantic poem that, "vile version" though it may be as Southey calls it, yet some estimate of it, if not some praise of it, seems natural in an English Life of Ariosto.

Really the best part of Mr. Gardner's book seems to us his treatment of the times, of the reign of Alfonso I., of the essential greatness of the little Estense State, of the complicated, subtly-handled, deep-laid and far-reaching Estensian policy. To some it may seem that there is too much of the "times" in the book, too little of the man, but Ariosto was so essentially a man of the times that they need to be displayed fully if we are to understand him. It is not as if he were a saint who is above, rather than of, his times. Mr. Gardner is under more than a half promise to give us a further volume dealing with Ferrarese history down to the year 1597 when Cesare d'Este ceased to be Duke of Ferrara but continued to be Duke of Modena. We sincerely hope that he may carry out his plan. There

is no lack of fascinating material: he will have to treat of the reigns of Ercole II. (how maimed indeed without the H) and Alfonso II. (who can help missing the expressive beauty of the "ph"?), of Tasso and his Leonora, of the great Catholic Counter-Reformation, and he will have the chance of unravelling for us in plain English the thorny and complicated problem: was Pope Clement VIII. bound by the terms of the investiture to confirm Cesare d'Este in the Duchy of Ferrara, or was he not rather within his rights in treating it as a lapsed fief and reducing it to the direct dominion of the Holy See? We scarcely envy him the task, but we much desire to see it done, and know of no English writer who could do it so thoroughly and impartially.

A PLEA FOR QUOTATION.

"The Political History of England." In Twelve Volumes. IV.—From the Accession of Richard II. to the Death of Richard III. By C. Oman. London: Longmans. 1906. 7s. 6d. net.

FEW living historians can compare with Mr. Oman in the art of narrative. He is always compact, yet he is rarely dull. He has a striking mastery of detail, but he never whelms the reader beneath an avalanche of facts. Few indeed are the subjects which he touches without adding to our knowledge of them. But his strong sense of proportion saves him from the too common fault of magnifying his private discoveries. His latest work covers a crowded century of English life; he has been severely restricted as to space; the general scheme of the series to which he contributes has prevented him from enlarging on literary and social history which many readers will consider more important, for this particular period, than the annals of party politics, foreign campaigns, and civil wars. Yet under these limitations he has achieved a considerable success. His first five chapters are no doubt more interesting than those which follow; the age of Wycliffe is better adapted to his mode of treatment than are the eighty-five years covered by the Lancastrian and Yorkist dynasties. Still he has given us the first account of these dynasties which is sufficiently detailed to be useful as a work of reference, and at the same time broad enough in treatment to attract the general reader. There are some omissions, it is true, which may well provoke surprise. Mr. Oman, to our mind, treats political history far too much as though it could be entirely divorced from the history of social life and institutions. This is not the case in any period; least of all in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. He has described the grievances of the peasant with admirable fulness; but he neglects to discuss the political attitude of the great towns. Yet in the fateful years of Wakefield and Towton the capital played an active and important rôle; of London life at least we should have expected an account. Similarly it is surprising to find that Parliament and the Privy Council, although constantly mentioned as factors in political events, are nowhere described at length. We share the antipathy which constitutional antiquities apparently stir in Mr. Oman's breast. But the broad lines of constitutional development, in an age which was one of momentous changes, cannot be considered irrelevant to the most political of histories. Probably Mr. Oman overestimates the common standard of information on such subjects. But however weary the Oxford undergraduate may be of the "Lancastrian constitutional experiment", and the "New Monarchy", these topics are still the reverse of familiar to unacademic readers.

Our chief complaint, however, is one which lies not so much against Mr. Oman as against the method of the series for which he writes. We should have welcomed a more leisurely and graphic treatment of his subject. A history should not merely be a chart, by which we may steer our way through the maze of intrigues, campaigns and conspiracies; it should also be pictorial in the sense of reproducing the atmosphere of the past. To this end it should be abundantly garnished with anecdote and quotation. Mr. Oman, as he has often proved in other books, is alive to the value

of such embellishments. They are not to be lightly contemned as though they were but the sugar-coating to the pill of education. They often teach more than pages of ingenious commentary. Mr. Oman, following the lines prescribed for him, has written an exceedingly lucid description of Agincourt. No doubt he has explained with accuracy the strength and weakness of the dispositions on both sides. But the reader would have been much better informed as to the spirit in which Henry V. and his men entered on the battle if Mr. Oman's account had included a few lines from the Ballad of Agincourt, as paraphrased by the London annalist. "And than he sayd to his lordys and to his mayne, 'Syres and ffelows the yondere mayne thenk to lette us of owe way, and they wil not come to us; let every man prove hymselfe a good man this day, and avant banner in the beste tyme of the yere! for as I am trew kynge and knight for me this day schalle never Inglonde rawnsome pay'." So again the dexterity with which Edward IV. propitiated the citizens of London could not be more humorously illustrated than by the following contemporary account of the picnic which he gave in Waltham Forest for the mayor and aldermen:—"Kyng Edward, for the greate favour that he had to this Mayr, he comanded hym to awayte upon hym wyth a certayn of his brythren, the aldermen, and certeyn comoners, to goo with hym on hunting in the forest of Waltham; where, when the Mayr and his company was comen, there was ordeyned for them a plesaunt lodge of grene bowhis and thidder was brought all thynges necessarye for theym. And the Kyng wold not go to dyner till they were served of their mete. And they were servid well and worshipfully, and as well seasoned mete as it had been dressed in a stondyng place. There was also wyne cowched, Reed, Whyte, and Claret whereof they had good plentye. And after diner they went on huntynge with the kyng and slewe many dere, as well Reed as ffalowe; whereof the kyng gave unto the Mayr and his company good plenty. And aftir, the kyng sent the Mayress and her sisters ij hertis and vj Bukkis, and a Tun of Wyne to make theym mery with, which was etyn in Drapers Hall."

This is true comedy which any paraphrase would spoil. No false pride of originality should prevent the modern writer from quoting such passages verbatim. Mr. Oman, who justly complains of the defects of fifteenth-century chronicles, might at least have acknowledged that they possess the saving charm of a distinctive style and flavour. They present to the life the shallow materialistic spirit of the English middle classes on the eve of the Renaissance; and yet they fill us with an amused indulgence for men who could be so picturesquely commonplace. There is one historical work relating to the period which, although not strictly contemporary, is of undoubted value as a source and of the first rank as literature. This is the *Life of Richard III.*, in which Sir Thomas More embodied the recollection of Cardinal Morton. Satirical narrative has never been better executed; and we particularly regret that More is not more generously quoted in Mr. Oman's pages.

WILLIAM OF OXFORD.

"William Stubbs, Bishop of Oxford." By W. H. Hutton. London: Constable. 1906. 6s. net.

IF this far from bloated biography of a big and unconventional man is a little conventional in tone, the reason is not so much that Mr. Hutton, who has the calamus velociter scribentis, is over-writing himself, as that he stood too near to his subject. Lives of fathers by sons are always lacking in salt, and Mr. Hutton, like S. Timothy to S. Paul, was sicut patri filius. Not that the disciple's admiration of Stubbs' eminence as one of the creators, for Oxford and England, of modern historical science is over-strained. But the "anfractuosities" of the man are a good deal softened in this sketch—his raciness, unusualness, contrariness, and certain deficiencies as a chief pastor. Yet Mr. Hutton quotes from a letter of one of his clergy: "Whatever you do, do not say that he was a great bishop!" Perhaps he was a greater bishop than diocesan, for an English bishop should be one of the rulers and guides

of the English people. His death was a severe loss to the whole Church, but the loss must have been felt most acutely by the other bishops. His immense authority as a constitutional historian caused him to be felt as a strong conservative and steadying force. He pulverised the lawyers' theory that the Church of England is a creature of the State and bound to dance to the fiddling of Parliament. He showed their monstrous structure of sham ecclesiastical courts to be an Erastian tyranny; and when Bishop Stubbs spoke of the Judicial Committee of Privy Council as "the foul thing", its sacrosanctity was gone. It was like Boniface hacking down the sacred tree. In doctrinal questions, such as the kenotic theory of the Incarnation, divorce, or the prohibited degrees, Stubbs stood equally four-square. It was of the deceased wife's sister that he wrote: "If the Church is to go down in this country before her foes, let her go down fighting a moral question like this and not a mere ritual question." Yet he loved to shock very serious people by an assumed levity and that "deeficulty" in not "jocking" which made Liddon say to him when he was nominated to Chester—"Now that you are going to be a bishop, you must not see the funny side of everything". His apparent flippancy was often but a violent attempt to conquer constitutional fits of depression. He should have been episcopated before, but, as he said, Dis(raeli) aliter visum. Though "steeped in clerical and conservative principles", yet, he said, "what a good layman I should have made". For there was a strain of scepticism in his mind. Was it not Stubbs who remarked, "There are two sides to everything—except Reading Station"? On the other hand he scandalised Oxford Liberalism—so Green wrote in 1867—by boldly asserting in his inaugural lecture in the Modern History chair that human annals find their key in Christ. He was not an eloquent, certainly not a gushing, preacher; yet his writing is marked by literary strength and grace as well as by massive thought and insight. Fortunate were the candidates for ordination who heard those wonderful ordination addresses delivered in the Cathedral at Christ Church; still more fortunate were the examining chaplains who heard them over and over again: for there were not many of them. They will never grow old. Mr. Hutton quotes the striking vindication of S. Dunstan and the study of Plantagenet character. His interest in history was mainly ecclesiastical; but what is English history apart from the English Church? The actual existence of that Church in the present day is, he saw clearly, due to the event of 30 January, 1649. But, when he says that "the tragedy of the Royal Martyr was the sealing of the Crown of England to the faith of the Church", we cannot help remembering that Charles I. has not had a single descendant or successor, except Anne, who has been more than nominally a member of the Church of England. Mr. Hutton's volume has some welcome woodcut illustrations instead of the usual photographs. It is a discreet book—possibly a trifle too discreet.

A NEW LOGIC.

"An Introduction to Logic." By H. W. B. Joseph. Oxford: At the Clarendon Press. 1906. 9s. 6d. net.

IF one of the Higher Critics were to treat this book after the approved fashion of his kind, he would say that it falls into two parts, an ordinary compendium of Logic and a series of dissertations on more advanced points, which might be the work of the Redactor himself. As a proof of dual authorship the critic would point out that the repeated insistence on the elementary nature of the treatise is quite out of keeping with the abstruse character of the dissertations. Nevertheless we can well believe that the whole book proceeds solely from the pen of the reputed author, and that its composite appearance arises out of the fact that some College Lectures have been enlarged into the present volume. The hypothesis of development out of some such germ may also account for the misnomer of "Introduction".

The strength of the book lies rather in the sound judgment which the author has displayed in knowing

whom to follow than in any new ideas of his own. "New ideas", he remarks himself "are scarce", but then the faculty of rightly selecting and duly co-ordinating old ideas is by no means so common as might be desired. The book on the whole is a good book and worth reading, though we think it would have been better if the author could have brought himself to compress it.

One of the leading ideas insisted upon throughout the volume is the uselessness of treating the form of thought entirely apart from the matter. Another salient feature is the contention that there is no such thing as Inductive in contrast with Deductive Logic. Here indeed Mr. Joseph does not go far enough. For he seems willing to "allow a difference between inductive and deductive reasoning". Now if there were more than one form of reasoning, there would be more than one form of Logic. But all that can justly be allowed is a difference between inductive and deductive inference. Brutes infer as well as men. The burnt puppy dreads the fire as much as the burnt child. But as soon as inductive inference rationalises itself by a conscious appeal to the principle of uniformity, it becomes converted into deduction.

The author wisely concedes to the opponents of the Syllogism that it is not the type of all reasoning. The syllogism involves a relation between terms in the way of subject and predicate; but things may be related to one another in other ways, such as "in space, time, quantity, degree, consanguinity, or as cause and effect" and these relations give rise to reasonings which are not syllogistic. Here Mr. Joseph is following Mr. Bradley. As to the Canon of Reasoning our author is inclined to accept Kant's statement—"whatever satisfies the condition of a rule falls under the rule", though he admits that our old friend the Dictum de Omni et Nullo may be interpreted in this sense. But, in whatever way the Canon may be stated, Mr. Joseph insists that it is a principle in accordance with which we reason, and not a major premiss under which particular reasonings can be subsumed, since anyone who denied the validity of a particular syllogism in the first figure would equally deny the validity of a similar syllogism, in which the principle itself stood as major premiss. The process of Reduction is shown to be useless, except as a logical exercise, by the further contention that the second and third figures are independent types of reasoning, into which certain arguments run more naturally than they do into the first. The principle of the second figure is put in this way—"No subject can possess an attribute which either excludes what it possesses or carries what it includes". No canon is given for the third. The fourth figure is not allowed to be an independent type. Mr. Joseph is in favour of reverting to the three figures of Aristotle, but does not attempt the Augean task of giving effect to his conviction. Under the head of Induction the most important point which the author has raised is with regard to Plurality of Causes. All are agreed that the same cause always has the same effect, but not all are ready to assert that the same effect always has the same cause. Mr. Joseph is one of those who are, and accordingly makes the Method of Agreement rest on the principle that "Nothing is the cause of a phenomenon in the absence of which it nevertheless occurs". But this again is only a precept of perfection, causes in a looser sense being freely admitted by our author.

The dissertations to which the book owes its bulk vary in quality. The discussion of the mutual relations of the Aristotelian and Kantian categories might well have been omitted, while that on the Heads of Predicables is tedious and inconclusive; the chapter on the Presuppositions of Induction is not very enlightening, nor is there much to be got out of that on the Methodology of the Sciences. On the other hand the polemic against the Quantification of the Predicate is very good; so also is all that is said on the difference between the "enumerative" and the strictly universal proposition; also the chapter on Simple Enumeration and Analogy and that on Mathematical Reasoning. In speaking about the inverse relation of extension and intension Mr. Joseph, unwittingly no doubt, conveys to his readers a wholly false impression. He says "But a

doctrine which has been accepted so widely of late and seems at first sight so plausible, must have some degree of justification". Then in a note we are told "There are however eminent names on the other side, e.g. Mr. F. H. Bradley, Professor Bosanquet, and R. L. Nettleship." One would hardly gather from this that the doctrine has only been questioned of late, and that by the particular authors mentioned in the note. Mr. Joseph in our opinion has made a mistake in following them, but he had better have done so openly. That the generic term means less than the specific is a plain principle which cannot really be disputed. Alternative applications, as of "animal" to "tiger" and "snail", do not constitute the meaning of "animal". Knowledge of zoology makes us know more about "animals", but the concept "animal" becomes thereby more attenuated by the exclusion of attributes which were once included.

The treatment of Induction by itself at the end of the volume lends countenance to the false notion, against which Mr. Joseph contends, of there being two kinds of Logic—Inductive and Deductive. The chapter on Immediate Inference might have been improved by a study of Dr. Keynes' handling of the subject; but Cambridge contributions to Logic have escaped the notice of the Oxford teacher. To discuss whether immediate inferences involve anything more than equipollency seems futile. Since you cannot get out of a proposition anything which is not in it, an immediate inference must either be equipollent or, if we may call it so, minoripollent. Mr. Joseph seems strangely reluctant to condemn the destructive moods of the Disjunctive Argument. What has Logic to do with arguments that are "not universally valid"? Why, too, is the treatment of Dilemma separated from that of Hypothetical and Disjunctive Reasoning? The dilemma is always an hypothetical argument with a disjunctive minor, so that Zeno's argument against motion is no dilemma. We learn for the first time from this volume that Theophrastus was nephew to Aristotle. Was Mr. Joseph thinking of Speusippus, who was sister's son to Plato? But a still more surprising statement is that a scalene triangle should be defined as "one containing three acute angles". Euclid, who ought to know, defines it as one "which has its three sides unequal". For the sake of exactness we may remark that the particular Baal who figures in the story of Elijah was not "worshipped by the Philistines" but by the Tyrians; also that Rom. viii. 29, 30 is not an instance of Sorites, for no conclusion is drawn, but of the figure Climax, when used, as it seldom is, in its strict sense. There is one error suggesting strange surmises. Is some female compositor, who is determined to vindicate the right of her sex to representation under the genus homo, responsible for saying "The word man, for example, denotes Peter, Jane, John, and an indefinite number of other individuals"? We repress the thought that it may be the work of the lady who read the proof-sheets.

It remains to notice some mistakes which are more directly logical. The author speaks of univocal and equivocal terms. Now words may be equivocal, but not terms, since the meaning of a term is settled by its definition. The category of habitus does not mean "state", but "having", as the examples at the end of the Categories show. Again Aristotle does not, as stated on page 53, first obtain four Heads of Predicables, and then five by subdividing, but first three, and then four, as shown by Topics i. 4, to which Mr. Joseph refers us. Again, we are told that "None but the brave deserve the fair" implies that "the brave deserve the fair", whereas, strictly speaking, all that it warrants us in asserting positively is that "Some of the brave deserve the fair". This is not a serious error. The same however cannot be said of the statement about the Sorites that "each premiss is minor to that which follows, and major to that which precedes it".

A feature about the book which deserves special praise is that Mr. Joseph has made a real study of Aristotle. A writer unacquainted with Aristotle may of course be as good a reasoner as one who knows him by heart, but he is certain to pervert the language of a science which is built on the Organon.

NOVELS.

"The Old Country." By Henry Newbolt. London: Smith, Elder. 1906. 6s.

In "The Old Country" Mr. Newbolt has given us an uncommonly thoughtful and interesting novel, partly modern, partly historical, and, as befits a poet, partly mystical. The characters in it start at a country house in the twentieth century, and for the greater part of the book are transported back to the days of the Black Prince and the year of Poitiers. Mr. Newbolt develops his theme of the continuity of human character with considerable skill and fairly demonstrates his contention that our ancestors have been for the most part travestied. He gives us fourteenth-century men and women so natural and so like the men and women of to-day that the world in which they move has an atmosphere of reality rare indeed in an historical novel. He does it to a great degree by translating their Latin and Anglo-French into cultivated or everyday English, according to the theme on which his characters are talking, very different from the pretentious Wardour Street patois affected by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and very refreshing and natural after the pinchbeck tawdriness of that pseudo-romantic school. Mr. Newbolt therefore does get the artistic effect at which he aims: he does make us believe that human nature is continuous, that the Englishmen of the fourteenth century were practically the very close kin of ourselves, and that they were busy solving in their way very much the same problems as we are. But we feel that they were rather less pressed, at any rate economically, to find the solutions. With the mystical side of his book, the persistence of the human personality and the mystery of time, Mr. Newbolt is no less successful. The hero's transference to the fourteenth century, extravagant as it sounds, does no violence to our credulity, thanks to his treatment of it. His demonstration of the unreality of time comes too at an opportune moment, when the pragmatists are inclining more and more to the assertion of its reality. The style is distinguished, and there is no lack of good images. The writer has a fine feeling for Nature. It is a novel for readers who like their fiction to stimulate, not merely to amuse; and above all it is an admirable expression of the genuine Tory spirit.

"The Locum Tenens." By Victor L. Whitechurch. London: Unwin. 1906. 6s.

There are plenty of novelists who begin well but cannot "stay the course"; indeed, no defect is more prominent in contemporary fiction. It is therefore a pleasure to discover a book like "The Locum Tenens", the interest of which is steadily and consistently developed from the first chapter to the last. Nervous incumbents, however, who are about to leave their parishes in charge of a highly recommended stranger, had better not read "The Locum Tenens". It might spoil their holiday to do so. For the eloquent if saturnine cleric who occupied temporarily the pulpit of S. Peter's, Marpleton, was an impostor, whose daring exploit will bear comparison with that of the Captain of Koepenick. Latham had begun life at the Bar, but had sunk to the lowest depths of degradation. A really fine scene is that in which he is unmasked by the Bishop of Norchester, who recognises in the locum tenens an admitted tramp and rascal, a friend of his college days. The circumstances which bring the tramp face to face with his wife, whose desertion was the primary cause of his downfall, and with the daughter whom he had never seen, undoubtedly strain the long arm of coincidence; but this the wise reader will forgive, for the sake of the excellent conclusion which is thereby attained.

"Paul." By E. F. Benson. London: Heinemann. 1906. 6s.

Mr. Benson is a writer who never quite gets the effect at which he seems to be aiming. In "Paul" he fails twice. The first part of the book does not quite contain that gruesome quality which the figure of Theodore Beckwith should impart to it; the second part misses being the powerful study of remorse which would justify Mr. Benson of his long descriptions of the feelings of the hero whom he has failed to make anything but a somewhat noisy bore. However the book

is worth reading for the entertaining personality of Theodore Beckwith, a thin and bloodless insomniac of vampire tendencies. As long as he adorns its pages it is quite interesting; when he leaves them, the book grows flabby. We fear however that Mr. Benson meant him to make our blood run cold, whilst as a matter of fact his diabolical cleverness provoked our laughter. Towards the end of his career he grows merely disgusting. Mr. Benson takes no small pains with his subsidiary characters, and with his writing, an entirely praiseworthy industry; but he does give us rather too much of both, especially of descriptive writing. All the time the fact is forced on us that the book would be twice as interesting if it were half as long.

NEW BOOKS AND REPRINTS.

"Lotus Land." By P. A. Thompson. London: Laurie. 16s. net.

No more intimate book on Southern Siam has appeared than this. Mr. Thompson has clearly availed himself of all the sources of information open to the student and in visiting the country itself has not been content to perambulate Bangkok in search of impressions. Opening with a chapter on the history of Siam which suggests that research might well be turned in that direction, Mr. Thompson gives an account of the capital and then takes us right into the country. People who never go out of Bangkok, he says, cannot hope to know the Siamese. The native of the capital, corrupted by contact with Europeans and the riffraff of all nations, is not a fair sample of his race. One distinguishing feature of the Siamese is their kindness to children and animals. Where gharries are owned and driven by them the ponies are well cared for and there is a great difference between the animals and those from Chinese and Indian stables. Then, for an Eastern people, the Siamese are moral as we of the West understand morality. In Bangkok there is no equivalent of the Yoshiwara of Tokio, drunkenness is rare and only the Chinese quarters of cities are unsafe. Siam is yet far removed from twentieth-century civilisation, but her progress is marked and the Siam of to-day is not the Siam of ten years ago. Mr. Thompson says there is no future for the country as there is for Japan and foresees revolutionary changes in consequence of the importation of Chinese labour to develop rich lands at present uncultivated for want of workers. "The Siamese, if not entirely swamped in the Chinese population, will at least become profoundly modified by inter-marriage. Even now, in many districts, the Siamese women prefer a thrifty Chinese husband to the lethargic Siamese." As Mr. Thompson says that the children of these mixed marriages are among the brightest in the country, perhaps the "swamping" would not be so undesirable after all. The book is very fully illustrated.

"In Constable's Country." By Herbert Tompkins. London: Dent. 1906. 12s. 6d. net.

The increasing popularity of "colour books" cannot be doubted, though one questions whether at the present rate of their production there may not be a "slump" ere long. In a large number of these books the printed matter is perfunctory more or less, but Mr. Tompkins has really something to say of Constable and his country, and does not write up to the illustrations. He gives a bright description of his roamings about Ipswich, and the country of the Stour, among other places, and has made a careful study of Constable's art. The illustrations are up to the average of such colour books, but the frontispiece—a portrait of Constable—is not very attractive; one cannot believe that Constable really had this pink-and-white complexion.

"The Memoirs of Count de Gramont." By Anthony Count Hamilton. Edited by Allan Fes. London: Bickers. 15s. net.

There have been various editions of this well-known book within the last hundred years, but the feature of the present volume is its illustration. By the half-tone process the publishers have illustrated many of the chief characters of the Memoirs, whilst the editor has in his introduction discussed this side of the work in some detail. The Memoirs have long been famous for their light entertainment and gaiety. The story of how Charles with Chiffinch surprised Miss Stewart and the Duke of Richmond is one of the best things of the sort in the social history of the time. Scott probably drew from it for one or two scenes in "Peveril of the Peak".

"British Dogs at Work." By A. Croxton Smith. Illustrated by G. Vernon Stokes. London: Black.

It is clear that Mr. Croxton Smith's task has been to supply some letterpress for Mr. Stokes' pictures of dogs. This kind of book production is not as a rule satisfactory, good though the illustrations may be. However, the author is so frank and modest about his work that he disarms criticism. His work indeed consists of notes on the dogs here illustrated and on some others which Mr. Stokes has not drawn. They

(Continued on page 684.)

THE MUTUAL LIFE

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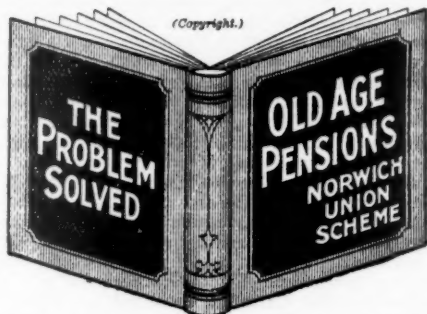
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are slight in many cases—a few lines for instance being as much as Mr. Smith can spare for the Irish water-spaniel which assuredly deserves some pages—but well informed. Mr. Stokes' pictures, which are in colour, are full of spirit. We have not seen any coloured pictures of dogs better than these. The advertisements of dog cakes and antiseptic disinfectants at the end of the book are scarcely inviting or lovely.

The more notable reprints published during the last week or two include "The Poetical Works of John Keats" (Clarendon Press. 7s. 6d. net) with an introduction and textual notes by H. Buxton Forman. This is a massive and full edition with an illustration never yet published in an edition of Keats' works, namely a photo-intaglio of the poet at Kenilworth Place by Joseph Stevens now in the Houghton-Crewe collection, a very interesting and charming portrait. There are also one or two lesser illustrations new to editions of Keats, including a facsimile leaf from a draft of "The Eve of St. Mark". The volume is well printed and the introduction informative; but one could do without the notes—life is not really half long enough for the scholarly footnote concerning details and trifles which is offered to the reader to-day in so many of the considerable reprints of English classics.—"Modern Painters" (Allen), complete in six little volumes for seven and sixpence the whole set—is it possible to get a cheaper Ruskin than this? Here is an edition that contains the author's revision and latest additions and will not be out of copyright for years many. The fact that the index alone to "Modern Painters" fills a volume gives a good idea of the amount of print which is compressed into this set: moreover four of the volumes are very fully illustrated in colour as well as by line-work and half-tone. It is an extraordinary production at the price and of course can only pay through the immense circulation of Ruskin's books to-day.—The Clarendon Press publish a pretty little book in "Sea Songs and Ballads" which Mr. Christopher Stone has selected. Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge contributes a pleasant introduction. He finds the British tar as brave and keen as ever, but there have been changes in certain matters. To-day "to sing an English sea song on the fore-castle of a merchant vessel would be to sing in a language foreign to half the audience. In a man-of-war the corresponding audience would be composed of men many of whom could talk intelligently about gravitation, and had attended lectures on ballistics, and could give you a definition of electrical potential".

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The assays from surface discoveries ahead of the workings give values up to 1 oz. 6 dwts. per ton.

The underground developments consist of "A" level 630 feet long, with crosscuts, which level is connected with the surface by shafts "B" and "C," 95 feet and 115 feet deep respectively. A costean shaft has been sunk, and will meet the north crosscut at a depth of about 150 feet.

The whole of these developments are in ore. Over 230,000 tons may reasonably be considered to have been disclosed above the "A" level.

The Mill Crushings up to the end of August last were 5,214 tons for a return of 2,419 ozs. 16 dwts. 17 grs. of retorted gold, leaving 8 dwts. 9 grs. per ton in the tailings, the ore thus treated showing an average of 17 dwts. 16 grs. per ton.

It is anticipated that within a few months the present mills, capable of crushing 100 tons per day, will be in full operation, and that the profit will amount to, approximately, £40,000 per annum; if the mills be increased to a capacity of 500 tons per day the profit would amount to £200,000 per annum, subject to provision for Sinking Fund, Administration, and other expenses. The balance of cash available from the present issue will be sufficient to cover the whole cost of the additional machinery and equipment to enable the mine to be further developed sufficiently to provide a continuous crushing up to 500 tons per day.

This is based on taking the average value of the ore at 12 dwts., and allowing for the extraction of 85 per cent., and milling, mining, and cyaniding costs, at 14s. per ton.

The metallurgical tests made show, by amalgamation and cyaniding, an extraction of upwards of 90 per cent. of the value.

The purchase consideration payable to the H.A. Syndicate, Limited, of 4s. London Wall, London, E.C., and the terms and conditions relating thereto, together with the various contracts and all other information required by the Companies Acts, are fully set out in the prospectus.

The Company will pay a brokerage of 6d. per share on all Shares allotted on application forms bearing brokers' stamp.

The minimum subscription upon which the Directors may proceed to Allotment on this issue is the number mentioned in the Articles of Association, namely, 55,000 Shares, but 115,000 Shares have been underwritten.

The DIRECTORS are LORD LURGAN, K.C.V.O., 31 Lowndes Square, London, S.W. (Chairman) (Director of Siberian Mines, Limited; Director of Egyptian Estates, Limited; a London Director of Norwich Union Life Insurance Society). THOMAS HAMILTON-ADAMS, De Tillem, Limpsfield, Surrey

Managing Director) (Managing Director of H.A. Syndicate Limited; Managing Director of Siberian Mines, Limited). E. MEREWETHER BOVILL, Norcott Court, Berkhamstead (Director of Peel River Land and Mineral Company, Limited). C. L. WILLOUGHBY WALLACE, 10 Drapers' Gardens, London, E.C. (Director of the Argentine Railway Concessions and Land Company, Limited).

The Bankers are Parr's Bank, Limited, 77 Lombard Street, London, E.C., and branches. The Solicitors to Vendor Company are Herbert Smith, Goss, King, and Gregory, 6a London Wall, London, E.C. The Solicitor to the Company is H. Percy Becher, 26 Bedford Row, London, W.C. The Broker is Wilfred Stephenson, Gresham House, Broad Street, London, E.C. The Auditors are Hudson Smith, Briggs, Smith and Taylor, 23 College Hill, London, E.C., and Exchange, Bristol. The Consulting Mining Engineers are Pearce, Kingston, and Browne, Worcester House, Walbrook, London, E.C. The Secretaries are Hamilton-Adams Frères, and the Registered Offices are at 62 London Wall, London, E.C.

Applications for Shares must be made on the form accompanying the prospectus, and forwarded to the Company's Bankers, together with a remittance for the amount payable on application.

This notice is not published as an invitation to apply for shares, but merely as a notification to shareholders in the H.A. Syndicate, Limited, Siberian Mines, Limited, and Nerchinsk Gold Co., Limited, that a prospectus of the Kluchi Gold Mines, Limited, is being issued, and that Prospectuses and Forms of Application can be obtained at the Offices of the Company and of the Bankers, Brokers, and Solicitor.

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